MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 MARCH 1982

Egypt

Assassination Sentences -- The Higher Military Court, in its proceedings broadcast by Cairo radio on 6 March, passed the death sentence on Khalid al-Islambuli and four other defendants in the Anwar as-Sadat assassination case. Five defendants were sentenced to life imprisonment, twelve others received varying prison terms and Dr 'Ummar 'Abd ar-Rahman and one other defendant were acquitted. According to MENA, the defendants were given 15 days to appeal their sentences. Reporting Cairo press comments praising the sentences, MENA cited an AL-AHRAM commentary that said the assassination of As-Sadat was a crime alien to the nature of the Egyptian people. While leaders make mistakes and are not infallible, AL-AHRAM said, individuals have no right to assassinate them. According to an AL-AHRAM report cited by MENA, 19 of the defendants will also face charges of participating in terrorist activities. They are among 1,000 persons accused of attempting to overthrow the regime, assassinating policemen in Asyut and attacking installations and security men, AL-AHRAM said.

Assembly Committee Statement -- The special committee of the People's Assembly issued a report on government policy that called for further action to promote a democratic climate, MENA reported. The committee called for the abolition of extraordinary measures and urged the government to speed up settlement of the cases of the remaining detainees.

Comment on Mitterrand Visit, Palestinian Question -- MENA reported that in a statement published by the Paris paper LE FIGARO, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said that in the wake of French President Francois Mitterrand's statement to the Knesset, it is specially important for France and the United States to synchronize their diplomatic activity on the Middle East to avoid duplication and contradictions. Meanwhile, Cairo radio said Mitterrand's remarks indicated that the European states have revived their interest in the Palestinian question. However, the situation remains frozen by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin's denial of Palestinian rights, the radio added.

Referring to Mitterrand's statement that the Camp David accords are limited and unable to resolve the Palestine question, a radio commentary said the current difficulties in resolving the issue within the Camp David framework are related to the application of these accords rather than to their content. Egypt will not accept from Israel any justification for not acknowledging the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, the radio added.

Israel

Habib Mission -- U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib arrived in Israel on 7 March after meeting with Saudi officials in Riyadh and stopping-over briefly in Cairo, Jerusalem radio reported. Commenting on Habib's previous visit to Israel, MA'ARIV said Prime Minister Begin was upset by Habib's message from President Ronald Reagan, which called on Israel to provide evidence that it seeks peace. Begin forcefully told Habib that the United States is largely responsible for the current "war atmosphere" on Israel's northern border, MA'ARIV noted. The paper also said the U.S. administration has "forgotten" the original purpose of Habib's mission: to remove the Syrian missiles from the Al-Biqa' Valley.

'Ali Visit -- Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon toured the Egyptian-Israeli international border early on 8 March in order to settle disputes over demarcation, Jerusalem radio reported.

PLO

Fatah Central Committee Member Salah Khalaf said in remarks broadcast by the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio that President Mitterrand's visit to Israel reflected a total French bias toward Israel, despite Mitterrand's vague phrases about Palestinian rights. Khalaf also said Mitterrand's announcement that PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat

is welcome in Paris but would not be received at the Elysee Palace means that Mitterrand does not recognize the PLO.

PLO Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Khalid al-Hasan told Monte Carlo radio that in his Knesset speech Mitterrand attempted to satisfy both the Palestinians and Israelis, but actually provoked both sides.

Syria

Al-Asad Speech -- President Hafiz al-Asad told a Damascus rally commemorating the 1963 Ba'thist revolution that the ruler of Iraq bears the largest responsibility for arming Muslim Brotherhood insurgents in Syria. In his speech, which was broadcast live by Damascus radio, Al-Asad said the "hangman" of Iraq has been sending arms to the Brotherhood ever since he took power and abrogated the projected Syrian-Iraqi unity agreement, which Al-Asad and former Iraqi President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr had formulated. The Syrian authorities have captured Iraqi-supplied weapons both before and during the Hamah incidents, Al-Asad said, and have also intercepted booby trapped cars that the Iraqis had intended to use in Damascus and Homs. Syria did not announce this before because it did not wish to exacerbate matters, Al-Asad went on, and it will never resort to the same method against Iraq because "we will not kill our people in Iraq" who are suffering an ordeal under their ruler.

Earlier in his remarks, Al-Asad accused the Muslim Brotherhood of carrying out every act banned by God, asserting that they murdered, raped, pillaged and desecrated mosques in Hamah. Stressing that his regime is a defender of Islam and quoting from the Koran, Al-Asad branded the Brotherhood as apostates who have distorted the meaning of Islam while posing as Muslims. The Hamah Ba'thists confronted and uprooted the rebels, Al-Asad said, while the citizens of Hamah gave all possible assistance to the party and security authorities. Noting that the Brotherhood staged the events in Hamah at a time when the Syrian authorities were preoccupied with the Israeli annexation of the Golan Heights, Al-Asad said the Brotherhood opened their arms to U.S. agents on Syria's borders to receive funds and weapons.

Security Situation -- Voice of Lebanon radio reported on 5 March that 100 tanks were moving toward Aleppo, where a bomb explosion had killed three people and wounded many others. The radio also said the military airbase west of Hamah was completely destroyed by air attacks following an army mutiny. Baghdad radio's Voice of Arab Syria claimed the popular resistance in Hamah had resumed the offensive against government forces.

Jordan

In an interview granted to U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, reported by Amman radio, King Husayn said Jordan might discuss with the United States the possibility of obtaining a mixture of F-16 and F-5 aircraft, but is not prepared to go through a humiliating process to obtain them. Earlier in the interview, the radio reported Husayn as telling the magazine that Jordan is unaware of the bases upon which the United States wants to establish peace in the Middle East and would like the U.S. administration to reaffirm what it thinks constitutes these bases. Husayn said the United States must stop being a messenger and practice its role of "defending the principles" for a settlement. Jordan, he said, has not discerned any clear U.S. policy.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Vienna Visit -- Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is expected to pay a 1-week surprise visit to Vienna starting 8 March, KUNA reported.

Relations With Sudan -- Tripoli radio carried a speech by Al-Qadhdhafi opening the African soccer games in Tripoli, in which he said Libya will intervene in the Sudan on the side of the Sudanese people in response to any intervention in aid of that country's "collapsing fascist government." Al-Qadhdhafi warned Arab "reaction" in general and Saudi Arabia in particular that if they do not contain themselves within their "artificial" borders, Libya will exercise its responsibility to provide military, economic and political assistance to the Sudanese people.

In a statement reported by SUNA, Sudanese Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak reacted to Al-Qadhdhafi's remarks by saying that Sudanese policy will not be influenced by Libyan threats, but that the Sudanese people will remain alert to any plots and aggression against the country.

Oil Affairs

A royal court communique transmitted by SPA on 6 March announced Saudi Arabia's decision to reduce oil production to 7.5 million barrels per day for the month of March. The communique not only castigated those whose "frivolous" raising of prices has caused demand for OPEC oil to slump since 1979, but also warned those who have recently rushed to reduce prices that their behavior will lead to the collapse of the OPEC price structure and of their long-term revenue.

Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani stated on the same day that OPEC oil ministers will hold an emergency meeting in Vienna on 19 March to discuss the oil surplus, SPA reported. However, QNA cited Yamani as asserting that there is no need for an emergency OPEC conference for the time being. Yamani also said the current OPEC price of $34 per barrel should remain unchanged. Meanwhile, OAPEC's Ministerial Council unanimously approved Tunisia's membership in OAPEC, SPA noted.

GCC

The third regular session of the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) began on 7 March, Riyadh television reported.

In a statement given to QNA, Ibrahim Humud as-Subhi, assistant secretary general for political affairs of the GCC, noted that there is "growing interest" in defending the Strait of Hormuz and that the strategy for the defense of the member states of the council is contained in a comprehensive plan for all the straits and strategic areas of the GCC countries. Announcing that the chiefs of staffs of the GCC states will meet in Riyadh on 15 March to discuss defense cooperation among member countries, As-Subhi said the upcoming meeting is regarded as a shift from the stage of review and evaluation to that of practical implementation.

Iran-Iraq Conflict Mediation

The Islamic Conference Good Offices Committee met in Jidda on 5 and 6 March under the chairmanship of Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure, who revealed in a subsequent press communique that the committee had decided to contact Iran and Iraq to present them with fresh proposals, SPA reported. The committee authorized a five-man subcommittee consisting of Sekou Toure, the presidents of Pakistan and Bangladesh, the Turkish prime minister and the secretary general of the Islamic Conference to travel to Baghdad and Tehran, the communique added.

The five-man committee met with President Saddam Husayn and other Iraqi officials on 7 March, according to INA. After returning to Jidda the same evening, Sekou Toure described the talks in Baghdad as good and positive, and said the committee found total understanding of the peace process by Iraqi officials, SPA reported. The committee departed for Tehran on 8 March, SPA noted.

Iran

Khomeyni Appearances -- Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni met with the chief of the Joint Staff on 6 March and a group of Tehran soccer players on 7 March, according to Tehran radio. The radio carried a recording of Khomeyni's speech to the athletes in which he urged them to play their part in strengthening and exporting Islam.

Coup Plot -- The head of the Urumiyeh Islamic Revolution Court disclosed that a fugitive army officer had attempted to organize a coup to restore the monarchy, IRNA reported. The judge said the officer had crossed into Iran from Turkey and contacted landlords

and other counterrevolutionary elements, among them members of the Muslim People's Party. He added that several people are under arrest and others are being sought.

Pardons for Prisoners -- In a statement reported by IRNA, Prosecutor General Hoseyn Musavi-Tabrizi announced that 6,000-7,000 convicted prisoners, including members of "splinter groups," will be pardoned within the next 2 months. He added that the total number of those amnestied will exceed 10,000, including those prisoners to be pardoned by the Justice Ministry.

Afghanistan

Rafi' in Moscow -- According to Kabul radio, Defense Minister Mohammad Rafi' recently appeared in a ceremony held in the Afghan Embassy in Moscow at which he presented medals to members of the Afghan Armed Forces studying in the USSR.

Explosion in Kabul -- A landmine exploded outside the Ministry of Education in Kabul, according to Moscow radio's English service beamed to Great Britain and Ireland. The radio reported the Afghan first deputy minister of education as telling a TASS correspondent that in the past 2 years counterrevolutionaries have burned down 600 schools and killed many teachers. Monitored Kabul media have not been observed to mention this incident.

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'ARAFAT RETURNS TO BEIRUT FROM SAUDI ARABIA

NC080751 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] returned to Beirut from Riyadh yesterday after participating in the meetings of the Islamic Good Offices Committee. Before leaving Riyadh, Abu 'Ammar met with Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal and Fatah Central Committee members Brothers Abu al-Walid [Sa'd Sayil], Hani al-Hasan and Abu Shakir [Rafiq an-Natshah]. During the meeting, they assessed the work of the Islamic Good Offices Committee.

PALESTINIAN REACTION TO MITTERRAND'S VISIT TO ISRAEL

PLO Spokesman

JN071641 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] The official PLO spokesman, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, has outlined the PLO's stand on French policy in the region.

In an interview published today in the Algerian newspaper EL-MOUDJAHID, Abu Mayzar said that the Palestinian people were under no illusion about the Middle East policies of the French and British Governments which were subordinate to that of the United States. He said that French President Mitterrand's recent visit to Israel had affected France-Palestinian and Franco-Arab relations, but did not reflect the views of the French people. Abu Mayzar also referred to the courageous policy of socialist Greece which had expressed its independent stand by recognizing the PLO and the national rights of the Palestinian people as well as by inviting PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to visit Athens.

The official spokesman denied any alleged contacts between the PLO and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, adding that the PLO's stand on Egypt will not change so long as there was no radical change in Egypt.

Fatah's Salah Khalaf

JN052030 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1745 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Fatah Central Committee member, held a press conference in the Foreign Information Office in Beirut this evening and talked about French President Francois Mitterrand's visit to the occupied homeland. The following is a recording of this conference:

[Salah Khalaf] First, we opposed President Mitterrand's visit to Israel because what we expected has happened. We can comment on President Mitterrand's statements when he arrived in Israel or on his speech in the Knesset: He talked about two topics pertaining to the PLO, casting doubt on it as a sole legitimate representative, on the one hand, and requiring the PLO to recognize Israel before thinking of sitting at the negotiation table, on the other. In his press conference, he made grave statements in which he said Israel's autonomy plan contributes to solving the problem. He is thus taking us back to Camp David. In short, Mitterrand's visit to Israel reflected a total French bias toward Israel, regardless of some vague phrases about the Arab nation and Palestinian rights. Such phrases were very ambiguous in his statements.

Since Mitterrand's assumption of power, he has been adopting a biased stand toward Israel. When he was asked if the relationship between France and Israel has changed, he answered: My presence here is of special significance. This confirms that he is biased in favor of Israel and that he tried to cover up some of his stands toward the Arabs out of the desire to maintain the economic relations between France and some Arab states. Some of his phrases, as we have said, were ambiguous and made no reference to any rights. In our opinion, Giscard d'Estaing expressed the Palestinian people's feelings better than socialist Mitterrand. [end recording]

Asked by a journalist if he could see any positive aspects in the French president's statements Brother Abu Iyad said:

[Begin recording] Can we after 30 or 35 years consider the ambiguous words about Palestinian rights a positive aspect? Mitterrand was a bad lawyer in defending these positive rights. [end recording]

Asked by a journalist if he considers this visit the beginning of a retreat or an individual case, Brother Abu Iyad said:

[Begin recording] We do not wager on the European governments, which seem to be greatly influenced by the United States. We wager on the peoples there. [end recording]

Asked whether he believes Mitterrand's stand and statements were the result of U.S. pressures, Brother Abu Iyad said:

[Begin recording] We believe they were. [end recording]

A French radio correspondent said Mitterrand's mere mention of the PLO is considered a positive initiative. Brother Abu Iyad said:

[Begin recording] First, he mentioned the PLO and said: I do not know if it does or does not represent the Palestinian people. Is it enough to merely mention the name of the PLO? What is important is to mention the organization within a certain context. [end recording]

The French radio correspondent said Mitterrand has stated that the PLO represents the fighters. Brother Abu Iyad replied:

[Begin recording] True, but this is wrong and we do not accept it. [end recording]

Asked if Mitterrand's statements mean going back on the Venice statement, Brother Abu Iyad said:

[Begin recording] The Venice statement was incomplete, but clear. Mitterrand's statements were incomplete and unclear.

[Unidentified questioner] If [words indistinct] Mitterrand invites 'Arafat to visit Paris, do you think such a visit could remove some of the negative aspects of Mitterrand's statements?

[Salah Khalaf] Let us look at Mitterrand's answer. He said 'Arafat is welcome in France, but he would not receive him because he does not recognize the PLO.

[Unidentified questioner] I will not receive him in the Elysee?

[Salah Khalaf] I will not receive him in the Elysee means that he does not recognize the PLO. Then what would be the purpose of the visit? Would he go to Paris to see the Elysee? [end recording]

Fatah's Khalid al-Hasan

JN052000 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Radio interview with Khalid al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and chairman of PLO Foreign Relations Committee, within the weekly program "It Happened Tomorrow" -- time and place not specified, live or recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Khalid al-Hasan. Yesterday, you were one of the main subjects of Begin's speech in reply to Mitterrand. Israeli Prime Minister Begin devoted not less than 10 minutes to you. He read a dialogue which presumably took place between you and an Israeli journalist in London. I think the dialogue took place indirectly.

[Answer] No dialogue occurred between me and any journalist. I actually spoke at a seminar organized by the Royal Institute of International Affairs. The custom is that once the speaker ends his speech, those present have a chance to ask him questions. Questions were asked for more than half an hour during which I gave clear answers. I do not remember anyone introducing himself as a representative of any particular body. What happened was a dialogue with those present at the seminar, including Europeans and Arabs.

[Question] Anyway, in his speech, Begin wanted to indicate that the PLO not only rejects Israel's presence, but also seeks its destruction. It seems that among the things you said to the [Israeli] paper DAVAR's correspondent was that any dialogue with the State of Israel is impossible, Zionism is the devil itself and Israel has no right to exist. What is your answer to Begin's statements?

[Answer] It is true I have said Zionism is the devil itself. Actually this is the most appropriate word to describe the Zionist evils which have exceeded those of the Nazis and the racist Rhodesian colonialism. Zionism, as is known, is a concept based on the establishment of greater Israel, the expulsion of Arab citizens from their own land and the dominion of the Jews over the Arab land. Such a concept based on racism, settlement and expansion must be closely connected with war and, therefore, it must be hostile to peace and humanity. Such qualities are typical characteristics of the devil.

[Question] What about Israel's right to exist?

[Answer] What I said, which was reported by the TIMES correspondent, was clear: Israel, which is based on the ideas of Zionism, has no right to exist. Simply because this state which wants to destroy seven Arab states extending from the Nile to the Euphrates -- this state which thinks it has the right to do whatever it wants and no one has the right to stop it -- has no right to exist. Otherwise, how can one explain or justify the wars that were fought for the sake of freedom, the latest of which was World War II which destroyed Nazism?

Therefore, we are against the Zionist entity and not against the Jews. We do not want to throw anyone in the sea, yet we do not want to stay in the desert. We want to live together in peace and be equal before the law.

[Question] It seems that mystery still surrounds the issue of separating Zionism and the Jews. However, our talk centers on Israel as a state.

[Answer] Israel is not a mere state. Israel, first of all is an entity, and not a state. It is an entity that has the organizational features of a state. This entity is based on a certain philosophy called Zionism. This entity has no defined borders because its ultimate borders are the great Israel which extends from the Nile to the Euphrates. Hence, the authors of this entity believe that their entity is still growing toward becoming a state. The Jews are something completely different. They are human beings just like anybody else. They worship God in their own way. We as Muslims and Christians have no objection to that. On the contrary, our history has no black spot of any religious descrimination. As much as we welcome the Jews we reject Zionism whether it is in the form of a state or an entity.

[Question] It seems, according to Begin, that you said the West Bank and Gaza Strip constitute a starting point for the establishment of the Palestinian state, in other words you want to destroy Israel.

[Answer] Let everyone conclude what he wants from what I said. I said that after the 1973 war we decided to accept the idea of establishing a state on any liberated part of the Palestinian soil. I also said that any people who relinquish any part of their homeland have no right to ask for the rest of this homeland. Accordingly, the dream which was expressed in Brother Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] UN speech regarding the unified democratic Palestinian state is a dream we are trying to realize. The means to realize this dream depends on the other side. The establishment of our own state on any part of our homeland should not lay any conditions or restrictions on the democratic movement of unifying Palestine in one state.

The quicker the Zionist thinking retreats, the faster the quality of thinking changes among the Jewish population in Israel. So instead of wanting war, expansion and victories, they will want to have peace. If this happens, the Jews will demand even more the unification of Palestine in any agreeable form that guarantees all the cultural and religious interests of the three religions in this holy country. Only then will Palestine again be a land of peace and only then will the state of panic which Zionism managed to plant in the minds of the Jews, or the Arab Jews at least, end.

[Question] Begin also accuses the PLO of aiming at the destruction of Israel in accordance with the Palestinian Charter. Mitterrand called for a dialogue. If this dialogue succeeds, as he says, all will be well; otherwise, the parties concerned have the freedom to act. What is the objection to omitting the article which might be understood to aim at destroying Israel?

[Answer] The 1964 charter was amended by the Palestinian National Council in 1968. The sentence now reads: The removal of the Zionist entity. There is a big difference between the Zionist entity and the Jews. Such logic cannot be done away with for the simple reason that we believe Zionism is threatening not only us, but also human values. This attitude is similar to that of the Free World toward nazism and fascism which were considered a threat to democracy and liberalism in the world and to the freedom of man.

[Question] Begin chose Khalid al-Hasan to quote. He could have chosen another Palestinian personality who might be regarded as more hardline. In your opinion why did he chose you?

[Answer] I believe the activities in Europe over the past 7 years and to be more exact since September 1975 have proved that the previous Zionist and Israeli victories in Europe were not due to the European people's faith in the good intentions of the Zionist aims but to the fact that the Europeans had been misled by the Zionist media and did not know anything about the facts of the Palestinian people's tragedy. Since 1975, we have been able to increasingly inform European public opinion of the facts through the press, parliaments, the media and the honest word. This has basically changed European public opinion. The Zionist position was shaken regardless of the positions of the governments whose actions are not motivated by truth and honesty but by vested interests. This process which we began in Europe bore fruit in Europe and even in the United States. This process terrifies Zionism. I think that when he chose my name, Begin chose the process that we greatly [word indistinct] in the Western world which completely supports Israel and the Zionist moves, thoughts and policy.

[Question] Since you have been involved in this issue, what is your reaction to President Mitterrand's speech?

[Answer] I expected all that happened. In an interview I gave before Mitterrand's visit and published today. I said the sharp reaction which Mitterrand will face from Begin will send him back to Paris a different man because he always thought that, through his views which are connected to the Socialist Internationale, he would be able to affect Begin and induce him to support a process based on just peace. However, Begin's reaction to the speech, his manner of rejection and his obscurantist words [words indistinct] will undoubtedly teach Mitterrand a lesson about the working of the Zionist mind. As for the president's speech, it was better than I expected but much worse than it should have been. He attempted to satisfy everyone. However, in this kind of struggle, which is actually a struggle between good and evil, it is difficult to satisfy the parties concerned with diplomatic words. He spoke about a Palestinian state but did not say Palestinian people. He said the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza Strip in order to appease Begin who would have had a fit if he had heard the words Palestinian people. Mitterrand did not mention the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people because he wanted to avoid mentioning the word people.

Mitterrand took a step forward in his speech about the right of the Palestinians to set up a Palestinian state. When he spoke about the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza Strip he took a step backward. Concerning the nature of his speech, on some points he took steps that were an improvement over his previous stands, and steps that were inferior to France's stand toward the Palestinians. He attempted to satisfy both the Palestinians and the Israelis but he actually provoked both of them. He spoke about a Palestinian state for the Palestinians but pointed out that the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza have the right to have a homeland or a state. He avoided mentioning the Palestinian people which would have thrown Begin into a fit. At the same time, Mitterrand affirmed the issue of the Palestinian state by stating that nobody has the right to demand something and deny it to others. Mitterrand should have said that in the partition plan, the world committed itself to two states in one country, and hence nobody has the right to expel the entire population of a country in order to settle some other people.

[Question] Don't you think you are being a little unfair to the French president? Was it possible for President Mitterrand to say anything more than he did? Hadn't he courageously spoken about the Palestinian state, the PLO and his basic differences with Begin? Could he have said anything more than what he did under the circumstances and on the first visit to Israel by a French president? Didn't he say more than any other president?

[Answer] You know that the French papers said Mitterrand would not achieve anything from his visit to Israel. You also know Mitterrand's visit to Israel is of moral value and he paid this visit to fulfill a promise he made during his election campaign. So, this visit was a mixture of commitment to fulfill a promise and adherence to a political principle. At least Mitterrand could have said the international community which recognized Israel's establishment has also decided to establish two states in Palestine and, therefore, he is committed to this decision. No one could have blamed Mitterrand if France decided to abide by decisions to which it contributed with the rest of the international community. The problem is not in the ultimate meaning of the speech but in its phrases which dealt with the Palestinian issue as a minor point, although it is the main point of the problem.

As a whole, it was a brave step forward regarding the importance of establishing a Palestinian state. On the other hand, there was a stand which I cannot describe as brave when Mitterrand did not talk about the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people and when he spoke about a state for the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. If that were so, then autonomy would sound logical; then the Palestinians would be looked upon as a minority. No, the problem is not so.

[Question] A state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip is not only for the inhabitants of these two areas. May other Palestinians enter this state?

[Answer] I am not sure whether this would be possible according to the speech. You see, I have the text of the speech in my hands and, therefore, I use this text as the basis of my remarks. When the state is established it will be a completely different issue.

So if we want to assess the reaction to the speech, then what I said is the assessment. What are the real intentions? What may happen in the future? This is something different. Here I want to say that all the Zionist leaders in Israel, besides the Camp David accords, attach strings to the free return of the Palestinians to the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Actually they have also attached strings to the return of the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza Strip who left after 1967. They said the tripartite committee stemming from the Camp David accords must first agree on the inhabitants' return. Actually the Israelis made it clear recently when they said that opening the doors for the Palestinians to return would mean a population explosion that would threaten Israel.

[Question] President Mitterrand admits that the PLO represents the Palestinian fighters. So can we say: Since the PLO represents the fighters, and since all the Palestinian people consider themselves as fighters then the PLO represents the entire Palestinian people? What do you think of this?

[Answer] I was about to say what you just said. The question remains, however, whether Mitterrand meant that? If he did, would the Western man understand the same thing? Would the man of the street in the West understand it?

[Question] I do not know what President Mitterrand meant exactly. Yet, he said that Yasir 'Arafat may come to Paris. Do you have any information on a possible meeting between 'Arafat and Mitterrand in the former's capacity as a fighter?

[Answer] I am not sure if you remember that Mitterrand and 'Arafat met in Cairo a few years ago.

[Question] Before Mitterrand became a president.

[Answer] So, they know each other. I think that meeting was successful. Mitterrand said about the meeting that he was surprised about this Palestinian explanation which he had not heard before. [sentence as heard] Any other meeting between the two is a must. You know that 'Arafat and Valery Giscard d'Estaing would have met had it not been for foreign interference and certain circumstances. The idea of a meeting is still valid. Actually, during Giscard d'Estaing's reign the two sides prepared a deaft for a joint communique. Several things happened which caused the situation to change. I believe it is for the sake of the two sides' interests that Mitterrand and 'Arafat meet in Paris so the French people may become acquainted with the depth of the Palestinian people's human heritage in spite of all the woes they have endured.

[Question] In conclusion we can say Mitterrand's visit to Israel was not completely negative. It also had some positive aspects.

[Answer] You have described it well. You looked at the matter as if you were looking at a glass half full of honey. Instead of saying that the glass is half empty, you said it is half full. Yes, I agree with you from this point of view.

[Question] Thank you Khalid al-Hasan.

PLO Newspaper Editorial

NC071411 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Mar 82

[FILASTIN ATH-THAWRAH 7 March editorial: "The Search for the Missing Role"]

[Text] The visit (to Israel) by the French Socialist president has assumed an exaggerated importance. Mitterrand's vacillating and hesitating speech in the Knesset suggested a possible French or European role in the Middle East based on friendship and confidence on the assumption that the European initiative of former French President Giscard d'Estaing and Lord Carrington lacked friendship and confidence between those who made the initiative and the Israeli leadership. French President Mitterrand put an end to the rupture in relations between Israel and France that busted since the June aggression of 1967.

President Mitterrand does not conceal his deep links with Israel's heritage and his firm faith in French-Israeli friendship. Thus, the French president possesses the qualities required by Israel for a mediator by being a historic friend of Israel. This suitable background for Israeli action aims at turning every friend of Israel into an Arab enemy, because the fragile balance in Mitterrand's speech in the Knesset gave way to the necessities of friendship and firm links between Mitterrand's France and Israel.

The declared differences over autonomy did not prevent the opening of bridges that were closed between Tel Aviv and Paris for 14 years. Menahem Begin canceled the French role in few sentences, even though the role was offered by a friend. Menahem Begin even forestalled a European role that might back Mitterrand in the future. Menahem Begin announced his total adherence to the Camp David logic as interpreted by Israel. Mitterrand offerred some shaky words about the 1 million Palestinians living in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The fact is that there are 4 million Palestinians and perhaps more. The Arab population is 150 million. We want to correct the figures President Mitterrand gave, because he gave the wrong figures not out of ignorance or lack of information, but to make arbitrary specifications that he wants to apply to the Palestinian people to facilitate his mission with his Israeli hosts.

Perhaps the most difficult questions Mitterrand will have to face after his return to Paris and he begins preparations to meet with U.S. President Reagan are: What is left of the fragile balance he proposed in the Knesset as substance for a French role as a prelude to a European role in the Middle East based on the assumed unity of the U.S.-European interests in the Middle East? The delicacy and sensitivity of the conflict in the Middle East on the local and international levels prompt us to follow up Mitterrand's endeavors in order to learn the extent and possibilities of their being realized. The French president, who preferred a pragmatic position to a principled one by supporting both the Egyptian and Israeli parts of the Camp David accord, will leave Israel for Washington within a week. He hopes his logic will be accepted by the United States, in the sense that socialist France is more acceptable to the Third World than imperialist United States, and, consequently, the United States must leave it to France to resolve the questions that cannot be solved by the United States for fear of the Soviet alternative or a joint Soviet-U.S. alternative.

FILASTIN ATH-THAWRAH continues: President Mitterand made a modest contribution in Central America toward this goal by cooperating with the Mexican president. The actual course of events in El Salvador, however, was not affected by the shy political proposal that President Mitterand made as an alternative to the U.S. logic.

What we can see in fact is that the U.S. involvement is increasing in the world while the French political position is diminishing, leaving room for the fact that the United States is the only image of the West. President Mitterrand, however, who took his initiative for El Salvador without success, believes that the Western camp's capability for renewal within a multifaceted framework permits him to play a prominent role in this camp because he considers himself more suitable to the logic of the age that rejects the U.S. stick.

The French policy, which is armed with culture and socialism, is more capable of defending the West's interests than the White House, which brandishes atomic bombs. Perhaps this dream suggested to Mitterrand that the continuous impasse in the Middle East might be resolved by his hand because he possesses the qualities that qualify him to play a role he views as acceptable to both sides of the conflict. Naturally, French policy has real interests in a compromise in the Middle East. President Mitterrand believes his friendship with Israel is a winning card in his hand that he may use well if he finds open minds in Washington to allow him to make moves. He ignores that the United States has succeeded France militarily and politically in Israel for a long time. He also ignores that Washington is using his role as a sedative to calm the atmosphere and create illusions in the Arab regimes, which are impatiently waiting for a way out of the impasse for fear of an eruption in the Arab world. This is because the only alternative to the current deadlock is an entire Arab eruption.

In light of what we know of the reality of the Arab policy, Mitterrand's visit will assume a status that it absolutely does not deserve. Many people engage in wishful thinking and see the French president as daring when he pointed to a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. They are now waiting for reports from the French capital and a week later they will wait for reports from the U.S. capital. Thus, the Arab capitals are attaching false hopes on a marginal event because the official Arab interpretation of Mitterrand's visit associates it with actual implementation, although all signs indicate this visit has served Israel only: French-Israeli relations have been restored to their past level.

We are interested in drawing the attention of the Arab regimes to President Mitterrand's lifting of the restrictions former President de Gaulle had imposed on Israel because of the June 1967 aggression. The restoration of French-Israeli relations, as the HERALD TRIBUNE reports, will enable Israel to acquire French expertise. Perhaps Israeli-French atomic cooperation will be renewed. France supplied Israel with the atomic reactor for Dimona and arms for 15 years until the United States took over this task in the mid-1960's.

FILASTIN ATH-THAWRAH adds: The restoration of French-Israeli relations has taken place at the expense of Arab-French relations that have been growing and developing for more than 10 years. Perhaps it is useful for the Arab regimes to ask France whether the words that Mitterrand uttered in the Knesset are sufficient compensation for the Arabs for the gravity of the restoration of French-Israeli relation. The new French logic about concern for a balance in French relations with the Arabs and Israel is formal logic that conceals a change in the French policy in favor of Israel.

Mitterrand's visit, which began with big hopes about a French role in the Middle East to achieve a political settlement that will take into consideration Arab objections to or rejection of the Camp David accords, has in practical terms ended with the restoration of French-Israeli relations. This event will be valueless in political circles for the simple reason that Menahem Begin managed to restore Israeli-French relations without making even a verbal commitment, despite Mitterrand's views. On the contrary, Menahem Begin was concerned to refute Mitterrand's logic by launching a sharp attack on Cheysson's statement. Taking the podium after Mitterrand in the Knesset, Begin answered his tacit remarks with frank and harsh speech. Consequently, Mitterrand has been left powerless in his search for the missing role of France and Europe in the Middle East, other than the role of friendship, which has been perfectly played with the restoration of French-Israeli relations to their past level at the expense of the Arab side.

Perhaps it would be logical, as FALASTIN ATH-THAWRAH says in its editorial, to explain at this point that Mitterrand, who has ignored the lessons of all past roles similar to his new role, has taken a basically wrong line. This line, perhaps, involves some signs of the illusions which As-Sadat possessed. As-Sadat thought concessions and bridges of confidence might change the logic of Zionism. As-Sadat discovered long before his final disappearance from the stage of history that his betting failed, because Israel does not view confidence as a substitute for power and the land which it has been holding for strength. This repetition by Mitterrand has no other purpose than to end the stagnation and to sell words and the actual French relations with Israel to the Arabs.

Although it is too early to talk about an Arab position, it is sufficient for the Arab regimes to see the actual course of French-Israeli relations to judge the practical results of all President Mitterrand's initiatives. However, Arab policy is not based on interests, but on illusions, the creation of illusions and the living by illusions, and in degraded situation as that being lived by some regimes. The Arab regimes have no need to link their interests and aims. Their interests are one thing and thier aims something else, and there is no relationship between them.

When the Arab regimes have a policy, then they will be entitled to judge Mitterrand's initiative as one that took place at the expense of the Arabs and in favor of Israel -- and it is still too early to establish an Arab policy responsible for the Arabs' interests and aims. Hence, Mitterrand's visit brings hope to many Arab capitals, although this is just an illusion which will not last long.

AL-BAYAN ON BID FOR EMERGENCY OPEC MEETING

GF261428 Doha QNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 26 Feb 82

[Excerpts] Dubayy, 26 Feb (QNA) -- Quoting oil sources in Abu Dhabi, today's issue of AL-BAYAN reports that consultations by OPEC oil ministers during the past few days to hold an OPEC emergency meeting and to ensure its success "have not resoluted in fixing a date or a place for this conference."

The sources say that among the suggestions proposed by OPEC members during the past few days is to hold a conference in Geneva in mid-March or to hold an urgent meeting no later than the first week of March. The sources indicate that the majority of OPEC members believe it is necessary to hold further consultations before any meeting in order to agree on steps OPEC should take to stop the reduction in prices and to put an end to the production surplus.

It should be noted that Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE petroleum and natural resources minister and current OPEC chairman, has repeatedly announced that consultations are still underway to hold an OPEC emergency conference as soon as possible to discuss the world's oil surplus.

VENEZUELAN OIL MINISTER SEES LATE MARCH TALKS

PA270215 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0109 GMT 26 Feb 82

[Excerpt] Caracas, 25 Feb (LATIN-REUTER) -- Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti has said that OPEC members are carrying out preparations to hold an emergency meeting in the second half of March to discuss the drop in petroleum prices.

Appearing before a session of congress to discuss the impact of declining petroleum revenue on the Venezuelan budget, Calderon today said: "There must first be consultations because it would be totally counterproductive for OPEC to have a meeting without any specific result."

Calderon said that OPEC's position in the international oil market is reaching a critical phase with the current decrease of production up to about 20 million barrels a day.

"If the current situation continues for much longer, my personal opinion is that it could cause internal problems among the members which would affect OPEC's unity," he said.

CHAIRMAN MAKES 'FINAL ARRANGEMENTS' FOR MEETING

GF060850 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0550 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 Mar (WAKH) -- Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, the UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, has announced that the final arrangements for holding a consultative OPEC conference are almost complete and that the conference will be held late in March 1982 to discuss the glut in the oil market.

Dr al-'Utaybah, the current OPEC chairman, said this conference might become an emergency conference if the ministers agree to this.

In a statement to WAM transmitted tonight the minister of petroleum and natural resources added: "We are now more confident that the conference will be held to deal with the latest developments in the oil market, and I as OPEC chairman, will call for that meeting as soon as possible."

Dr al-'Utaybah commented on the current market situation and described it as "bad." He also urged the oil-producing countries not to cut their prices with the aim of competing in the market before the consultative conference is held late in March 1982. He said: "We hope that the countries contemplating cutting their prices will deliberate a little, because we are really intent on finding solutions that will help these countries."

In the past 2 days, Dr al-'Utaybah visited Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Kuwait. During his visits to these countries he discussed the most recent developments in the oil market and the possibility of holding a consultative conference. Upon returning to the UAE he noted that he had received replies from most of the OPEC member countries approving holding the consultative conference to discuss the glut in the oil market.

ARAB OIL MINISTERS DISCUSS OPEC MEETING

GF051705 Doha QNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 Mar (QNA) -- Reliable oil sources say important consultations are being held by Arab oil ministers who are members of OPEC outside the meetings of the Arab Energy Conference scheduled to begin in Doha tomorrow, Saturday. An emergency OPEC meeting to discuss the circumstances which have led to the international oil glut and means to counter it are being discussed.

The sources told QNA in Abu Dhabi that these consultations are to complement the discussions which Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE petroleum and natural resources minister and current chairman of OPEC, held in Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

The sources pointed out that the time and venue of the emergency meeting will be announced after certain preparations are completed in view of the consultations which Dr al-'Utaybah is currently holding with his OPEC counterparts.

It should be noted that Dr al-'Utaybah will lead his country's delegation to the second Arab Energy Conference meetings.

OPEC CHAIRMAN: PRESENT PRICES MUST STAY

GF061856 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1722 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 Mar (WAM) -- Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE petroleum and natural resources minister and current OPEC chairman, said that "OPEC will defend its price structure against all attempts to press for a reduction of OPEC's official prices."

In a statement to WAM following his return from Doha today after taking part in the first session of the second Arab Energy Conference, Al-'Utaybah said that he had met with a positive response from most of the 13 OPEC member countries to reduce their oil production so as to absorb the enormous oil surplus on the world markets.

However, al-'Utaybah expressed hope that during their advisory meeting in Vienna on 19 March the oil ministers "will agree on production rates that are less than 18.5 million barrels a day" so as to restore the balance between supply and demand on the world market which since the beginning of 1982 has been suffering from an increasing oil glut that compelled many OPEC members and non-OPEC members to reduce their oil prices officially and unofficially.

Al-'Utaybah called on all OPEC countries to "seek to further reduce their production so that we can defend current prices. Therefore, production must be less than 18.5 million barrels a day."

Al-'Utaybah declared: "The OPEC conference must resolve production problems, and therefore it is necessary to defend the current oil prices that were agreed upon in Abu Dhabi in December 1981 by reducing production."

The ministers had agreed to fix the indexed price of Arabian light crude at $34 per barrel and to add or subtract differentials depending on the quality of the various types of crude oil and their proximity to the world markets and also on the freezing of oil prices until the end of 1982.

Al-'Utaybah emphasized: "Prices should remain as they are. I have said so in the past. We shall defend these prices by all means and spare no effort in doing so."

VENEZUELA ANNOUNCES DROP IN HEAVY CRUDE PRICES

PA020348 Paris AFP in Spanish 2354 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] Caracas, 1 Mar (AFP) -- Venezuela has reduced the prices of heavy and extraheavy crude oils by $2.50 effective today, 1 day after it reduced for the third consecutive time so far this year the price of its residual fuels with a high sulphur content.

In a press bulletin, the Venezuelan Energy Ministry indicated that the drop in the prices of the heavy and extraheavy fuels is "a necessary reaction in view of the announcement by some producer countries about the decrease of the prices of their exports."

It also stated that "today's decision -- to reduce those prices for the second time this year -- is due to the volatile situation of the international petroleum market and is made within the framework of price commitments assumed by Venezuela in OPEC."

The new list of prices of heavy and extraheavy crude oils effective 1 March is as follows:

API Grades	Previous Price (1/1/82)	Current Price
10.0	$21.40	$18.90
11.5	23.70	21.20
12.0	24.47	21.97
13.0	25.14	22.64
14.0	25.80	23.30
15.0	26.46	23.96
16.0	28.73	26.23
17.0	27.79	25.29
18.0	28.55	26.05
19.0	29.00	26.50
20.6	29.62	27.12

VENEZUELA REAFFIRMS ADHESION TO OPEC POLICIES

PA052112 Vienna OPECNA in Spanish 1612 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Caracas, 5 Mar (OPECNA) -- Venezuela will continue respecting its commitments with OPEC, Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti has declared.

"Our attitude is one of solidarity with the organization and we will do nothing which could weaken it," he stressed.

He said that a solution must be found to the problems of the world's oil market through a joint agreement.

The minister said that Venezuela is completely aware of the adversary position of the industrialized countries toward OPEC.

"We must design a strategy that will permit us to overcome that attitude," he added.

Finance Minister Luis Ugueto Airsmendi, said some international interests are trying to force a drop in oil prices.

SYRIAN MINISTER COMMENTS ON OPEC POLICIES

LD061434 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1405 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Doha, 7 Mar (KUNA) -- The Syrian oil minister, 'Abd al-Jabbar ad-Dahhak, has stated that the oil producing countries are suffering from the glut in world markets, the drop in prices and the attempt of some of the OPEC countries to price their oil individually.

In an interview with KUNA, he stated that adopting such a course "affects the strategy and the policy of the other countries."

He mentioned that Syria has started to manufacture the necessary equipment to utilize solar energy, "at least" for governmental use.

The Syrian minister disclosed that in the second half of this year his government will start building a gas liquification plant in Al-Hasakah district, eastern Syria, with an output capacity of 50,000 tons per annum, in addition to another plant with a capacity of 150,000 tons of clean gas for generating electricity.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL ON GULF AFFAIRS

GF051655 Doha QNA in Arabic 1252 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Riyadh, 5 Mar (QNA) -- Ibrahim Humud as-Subhi, GCC assistant secretary general for political affairs, has noted that the council has prepared a comprehensive and clear plan to confront the threats facing it, particularly the Zionist threats, and means of deterring them in a way that ensures the council countries' defense.

In an exclusive statement to the QNA correspondent in Riyadh, he said that the only reaction of the GCC countries to any attempt to carry out aggression against them is cooperation and cohesion. Moreover, any enemy who intends to carry out an evil act in the region must realize that it is not facing one country but many cooperative countries that have a clear evaluation of the danger and a comprehensive strategy to deter it. He added that these dangers are not directed against only the council countries but also against our Arab brethren. They must set aside their differences and heal the rifts because the enemy is menacing our region. It is expanding and promoting all kinds of aggressive acts so it must be confronted politically, economically and militarily. He stressed that the Arab nation will be the strongest power in its confrontation of these dangers through its doctrine, capabilities and wealth.

Asked about the plan for the defense of the Strait of Hormuz, he said that the strategy for the defense of the GCC countries is a comprehensive plan that covers all straits and strategic regions of all GCC countries and that there is a comprehensive consensus to strengthen these regions. He pointed out that the Gulf military mission which recently visited Oman had prepared a comprehensive evaluation of the dangers to Oman. This mission also visited Bahrain to evaluate the threats to it in light of the latest sabotage plot and to consider the support which the GCC countries can provide for the Government of Bahrain. He added that there is a growing interest in defending the Strait of Hormuz since it is a bottleneck and vital artery through which the Gulf's petroleum wealth passes.

On the transfer of military and civil technology to the GCC countries, the GCC assistant secretary general noted that the council had discussed this issue. We reached the conclusion that if we want to exploit the technology then we have to do that in a perfect way so that this technology will not exploit us to the advantage of the country that produces and develops it.

Therefore, it was agreed that in the coming stage we will adopt the policy of preparing cadres who are capable of grasping the technology so as to have it run by national bodies. He pointed out that the Gulf countries believe that a Gulf military industry must be established, but this has to be well prepared in terms of cadres, crude material, manufacturing and marketing. When elements are completed, we will start this industry on sound and reasonable bases.

Asked about the broad lines of the comprehensive security agreement among the GCC countries, Ibrahim Humud as-Subhi noted that the Secretariat submitted views and ideas about this draft agreement to the first conference of interior ministers. The conference approved them, and they will the basis of this agreement. He said these views were conveyed to us through the experience of work at the council and through contacts with the member countries. As for the draft agreement, it will be finalized by experts in various security matters.

On the working paper presented by the Secretariat on this matter, he noted that it dealt with a number of matters. Some of these are coordination among the various security bodies in the member countries, means of holding direct contacts among those concerned in the security bodies, establishment of a center for security information, training of technicians and security cadres, having a special security code for GCC security bodies, establishment of a police college and development of education and scientific curiculums in this college.

On the bilateral security agreements of the GCC countries, the assistant secretary general said the Saudi Interior Ministry had outlined a plan for such agreements. Some countries signed the agreements before the interior ministers conference, others signed the agreements during the conference and still others will sign them later. He described the agreements as one of the links that complete the unified security agreement. He pointed out that the Secretariat will invite all security experts of the GCC countries to meet shortly to draft the agreement so that it can be reviewed by the second interior ministers conference in October.

Mr as-Subhi stressed that the interior ministers did not discuss the issue of borders because it does not constitute any obstacle to the process of promoting cooperation among the GCC countries. He added that this process exceeds small differences that may take place among brethren. He continued: there is profound understanding among their majesties and their highnesses, the leaders of the GCC countries, on moves toward integration and unity.

Answering a question about the unified economic agreement, he said a group of committees had been formed. These committees have prepared a list of dates for meetings which will be held in the near future to study the means of implementing this agreement. The foremost of these meetings will be those of the committee of the customs directors which will discuss the lifting of restrictions and unification of tariffs. Other meetings will be held to discuss ensuring freedom of travel, freedom of capital investment and freedom of property in addition to other matters which will be defined. When this is completed, the economic agreement will be implemented to achieve economic integration among the GCC countries.

On the next meetings of the GCC countries, the GCC official noted that the Ministerial Council, which includes the GCC foreign ministers, will hold its second meeting in Riyadh on Sunday and Monday [8 and 9 March]. All resolutions and recommendations reached by the ministerial conferences which were held here recently, in addition to the achievements of the Secretariat, will be reviewed by the council.

We are proud of these achievements because this is a procession that is only 8 months old. What we have achieved so far is regarded as something to be proud of by the people of the GCC countries.

He indicated that the chiefs of staff of the six countries will hold their second meeting in Riyadh on 15 March to discuss priorities in implementing the recommendations of the defense ministers on defense cooperation among the GCC countries. He added that this meeting is regarded as a shift from the stage of review and evaluation to the stage of practical implementation. Good results will be achieved that will please the Gulf citizens.

He pointed out that an invitation has been issued for a meeting of the planning ministers in April so as to coordinate development plans among the GCC countries and promote the planning process so it can cope with cultural developments. He added that another invitation has been issued for the transport, transporation and housing ministers to hold a meeting next month. He stressed that there is a complete conviction to link the GCC countries with land, sea and air networks in order to strengthen rapproachment and allow the citizens of the Gulf to move freely and quickly among the GCC countries.

On the call by the Amir of Kuwait, His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, to recognize the eastern bloc, we noted that the GCC's policy is clear and declared. It calls for keeping the region free from international disputes. We want our region to be a region of peace, security and stability, and this is our responsibility. As for opening a dialogue with this side or that, the GCC countries believe that if this is useful then they will have a dialogue. He indicated that the GCC countries have no relations with the eastern bloc, but Kuwait has. The question that arises is can we develop this bridge in a way we can walk on it. If we reach a consensus on that, then we will not hesitate to use it, nor will hesitate to use all the other bridges, for there are other countries which maintain good relations with the West and these bridges have to be exploited as long as they agree with the goals of our strategy. He emphasized that the GCC countries do not hesitate to develop their good relations with other countries in order to resolve Arab issues, the foremost of which is the Palestinian issue. The dialogue on this issue is continuous. It will never stop because the bridges of confidence that link us with the other countries of the world have to be exploited.

On the Gulf information media and their role in coping with the procession of the GCC, Ibrahim Humud as-Subhi said that the Secretariat is currently preparing a concept on information and this will be preparatory to an information strategy for the GCC countries, through an evaluation of the coming information stage, in order to submit it to the next conference of information ministers for discussion and approval. He pointed out that the information ministries of Saudi Arabia and Oman have each prepared a study on this matter and sent it to the Secretariat. Besides, a number of officials in the other information ministries have promised to prepare similar studies which will help in the preparation of a unified information strategy for the GCC countries.

Ibrahim Hamud as-Subhi revealed that the Secretariat submitted to the first interior ministers conference held recently in Riyadh a proposal to celebrate 25 May every year as a national holiday. This day is to be celebrated by the peoples of the GCC countries as the anniversary of the establishment of the council. It was decided that this issue will be reviewed by the GCC countries in order to announce this day as a holiday that symbolizes their cohesion.

On the post-petroleum period of the GCC countries, the GCC assistant secretary general for political affairs concluded his statement by saying that this matter requires the attention of the officials of the GCC countries. This matter is currently being considered so as to make the current economic stability last beyond the post-petroleum period. This matter will be taken into consideration when the economic and development plans of the GCC countries are set.

GCC MINISTERIAL COUNCIL HOLDS REGULAR SESSION

GF071757 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in English 1715 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Meetings of the third ordinary session of the GCC Ministerial Council started this evening in Riyadh under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister.

The meeting was attended by the GCC member states' foreign ministers; Mr 'Abdallah Bisharah, GCC secretary general; Mr Ibrahim as-Subhi, the assistant secretary general for political affairs; Dr 'Abdallah al-Quwayz, assistant secretary general for economic affairs; and members of the delegations.

The GCC states' foreign ministers began arriving in Riyadh today to attend the second session of the GCC ministerial conference. At 1300 today Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, the Bahraini foreign minister, arrived in Riyadh to attend the meetings of the GCC ministerial conference.

At 1315 today Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, the Qatari foreign minister, arrived in Riyadh.

At 1330 today Mr Yusuf al-'Alawi, the Omani foreign minister, arrived in Riyadh.

At 1735 Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Ja[illegible]r, the Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Riyadh.

The GCC states' foreign ministers were received on arrival by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister; Shaykh 'Abdallah Bisharah, the GCC secretary general; Mr Ibrahim as-Subhi, the GCC assistant secretary general for political affairs; Mr 'Abdallah al-Quwayz, the GCC assistant secretary general for economic affairs; the ambassadors of GCC countries to the kingdom; and a number of officials at the Foreign Ministry.

AGRICULTURE MINISTERS CONCLUDE CONFERENCE

GF031245 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1138 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Manama, 3 Mar (WAKH) -- The agriculture ministers of the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula countries concluded their seventh converence in Manama this morning. The conference adopted a number of resolutions and recommendations on agricultural issues in the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula countries.

KUWAIT

DAILY REPO[illegible]S AL-AHMAD'S TALKS WITH VELIOTES

GF061638 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 4 Mar 82 pp 1, 21

[Text] A senior official has disclosed what took place during the talks between Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, foreign and information minister, and Nicholas Veliotes, U.S. assistant secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, and which were attended by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Rashid ar-Rashid and the U.S. ambassador to Kuwait. The senior official said the talks were comprehensive in the sense that all current issues were discussed, especially the Middle East crisis. The source added that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad explained to the U.S. official that the U.S. stands on this issue are far from truth and justice because they have always been and still are biased toward Israel at the expense of legitimate Arab rights. The foreign minister said that among these U.S. stands is its recent one in the Security Council concerning the Golan annexation.

The official added that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad told the U.S. official that had it not been for unlimited U.S. military aid of various types of sophisticated destructive weapons Israel would not have been able to deploy its forces preparatory to occupying southern Lebanon, which has been subject to Israeli aggression for years. The foreign minister explained that such Israeli aggression is taking place while the Arab Followup Committee continues its efforts to normalize the situation in Lebanon. He added that this committee is exerting efforts not only in one region but throughout Lebanon from north to south. Meanwhile, he added, the United States is not making the required effort to repress Israel in order to help restore calm in Lebanon.

Concerning the situation in the Gulf and in response to the Western propaganda campaign on specific dangers to the Gulf, the Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign and information minister informed the U.S. official that the security of the Gulf is the responsibility of the Gulf states and that these states know where the dangers originate. He also told him that the GCC was formed so that the region's states can carry out their responsibilities to the region without superpower intervention. He also explained that as a result of this all decisions are Gulf decisions that stem from the interests of the region and its peoples. The GCC is part of integrated Arab action and not contradictory to it. The foreign minister stressed that the Gulf states will not respond to continuing statements about specific threats.

Concerning the Iraqi-Iranian war which has been going on for the past 18 months, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad informed the U.S. official: As this war continues we find the United States and its Western allies indifferent, as if the issue did not concern them and as if the deaths of thousands of Iraqis and Iranians and the enormous losses inflicted on both countries and their peoples meant nothing. He added that the United States has not made a single move on this matter to the extent that this war -- to the United States in particular and the West in general -- has become the forgotten war. Meanwhile, he added, the United States and Europe are creating a big fuss about what is taking place in Poland. The Kuwaiti foreign minister stressed that Kuwait and the region's states are observing with great concern these stands, which can only be called undesirable.

The Kuwaiti official, who preferred not to be named, described Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad's stand as quite clear and frank. He stressed to the U.S. official the necessity of his country's reconsideration of its entire policy in the region in order to become closer to the logic of truth and justice.

OFFICIAL ASSESSES MITTERRAND'S VISIT TO ISRAEL

LD071436 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1226 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Kuwait, 7 Mar (KUNA) -- The Kuwaiti minister of state for Cabinet affairs today declared that French President Francois Mitterrand's visit to Israel "produced no new just and acceptable solutions to the Middle East question."

Replying to a question from KUNA about Kuwait's assessment of the visit, the minister said: "President Mitterrand forgot to point out that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and that more than 20 Arab states which have good relations with France and which conduct many bilateral exchanges with it insist on this fact and so recognize the PLO."

Husayn described the visit as being "negative," an assessment made by the French president himself, who affirmed that what he had said in Jerusalem was no different than what he had stated earlier in Paris. He said he did not add anything new, and he certainly did not add anything to his sphere of activities, except that he has become the first European president to visit the Zionist entity.

Husayn expressed his regret that "France's cultural and historic tradition of upholding freedom, for which it is famous, was not made evident during this confrontation with Israeli obstinancy and the arrogance and haughtiness of Israel's leaders."

He added that during his visit, President Mitterrand ignored the historic facts and the disregarded legal and human rights of the Palestinian people outside and within the occupied territory in order to admire what the occupiers have built on the ruins of justice and through the material and moral support of the West."

Husayn continued: "We Arabs had hoped that the leader of French socialism would have exposed this, which would have put France in its proper place as regards standards of civilization. Instead, the senior visitor forgot to point out that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Moreover, more than 20 Arab states which have good relations with France and which conduct many bilateral exchanges with it insist on this fact and so recognize the PLO."

Husayn said: "The French president forgot that in his visit he was not fulfilling a campaign promise to attract Jewish votes for a socialist system, which is unacceptable to the Jews, as much as representing principles of justice that should have cut down the terrorist regime in occupied Palestine to its proper size and exposed it to the Western world in general and to the French people in particular."

[Words indistinct] question about whether the Arabs attached any hopes to President Mitterrand's visit to the Zionist state, the minister said that had there been any hopes [words indistinct] sent one of its senior officials [words indistinct] to the region. "(?We) in Kuwait placed (?it) in the proper perspective and asked it to be aware of the truth of the matter and the importance of Arab-French relations, and thus there were some hopes attached to this visit." He once more stressed that the French president had himself admitted that the visit had "produced nothing new."

PRESS COMMENTS ON VERDICTS ON AS-SADAT ASSASSINS

LD071322 Kuwait KUNA in English 1114 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 7 Mar (KUNA) -- Extracts from Kuwaiti newspaper editorials Sunday:

AL-WATAN on the Case of As-Sadat's Murder:

"The assassination of Anwar as-Sadat wasn't an ordinary murder case...but was, irrespective of any consideration, a political murder and as such the trial of the defendants, even if the legal prosecution took place in a military court, was a political trial.

"It is hard for us to give our opinion of the judicial proceedings with regard to those who killed As-Sadat because we do not wish to debate an issue that was left for the court to decide on. Yet political trials are extraordinary questions in which lots of factors are intermingled giving public opinion the right to assume the role of the jury had this system been on the use in the Arab judicature.

"We must remember that the official Egyptian media and the official Egyptian stances have played a role they were supposed to have dismissed in respect to the judiciary and in abidance by the set of rules governing the dealing with a political contest being treated at court.

"Circumstances and political pressure have forced the Egyptian regime to hastily decide to take the case to a military court. Still it was necessary at least to have this court be up to the level of hope pinned on the honesty of the Egyptian judiciary, and to have her proceed with the hearing in an atmosphere far from being nervous and hysterical.

"It was one million times better to have postponed the verdict one month, a year or ten years than to have had one innocent among them (the defendants) convicted or to have a verdict issued in their case, definitive as it is, that raises tens of exclamation and question marks.

"Although we would have prefered not to see this case throwing additional burden on President Husni Mubarak's shoulders yet we still hope he would be dealing with the matter in a spirit of responsibility that is not affected by emotions and that does not get carried away behind motives other than those of law, justice and the higher interest of Egypt."

AL-ANBA' on the Same Subject:

"Fate chose Husni Mubarak as the president of Egypt after the death of Anwar as-Sadat. This is a test for Mubarak's ability to get matters under control to be faithful to his people and to abide by the interests of those people.

"Fate wanted Anwar as-Sadat to leave for Husni Mubarak a heavy heritage full of sins, oppression and recklessness toward the welfare of the Egyptian people, their future and their problems. Mubarak came to power when As-Sadat was killed with the bullets of a number of officers and soldiers whom As-Sadat once described as good for nothing except agriculture and internal work.

"The Egyptian president who is in power now has not been able to fully discuss the destiny of these men. Therefore, there has to be a trial and a verdict. And the verdict has been the death penalty.

"It is very difficult for Mubarak to choose between keeping the law which stipulates the execution of any one who kills, especially that the man murdered was the president of Egypt, and deciding that those who assassinated As-Sadat killed the man who sold Egypt, morgaged its destiny and rights, tread on its dignity, opened the doors of prisons and closed the doors between Egypt and Arabism to open only one door, i.e. reconciliation with Israel and be an agent for the United States. But this door lead him to a terrible destiny.

"Mubarak finds himself in a very difficult situation for he has to take a crucial decision and make a fateful choice. It is not easy for him to cancel the death verdict because the assassins also killed other people who were near the president when they only meant to kill the president alone. It is not easy for Mubarak to disobey his conscience and conviction and the will of the Egyptian people and all the Arab peoples who believe that As-Sadat deserved what he got.

"We ask you, Mubarak, not to make these assassins pay their life because they killed the person who made the life of Egypt a hostage, who gave away the Egyptian necks to the American CIA and the Israeli intelligence and who opened Egypt's land and economy to imperialism.

"The law reduces the penalty of death if the person kills to defend his honor. In this case, the death verdict should be reduced because the assassins killed to defend the dignity and honor of Egypt, the Egyptian Army and Egypt's Arabism.

QATAR

DAILY SCORES BAHRAIN CONDUCT OVER DISPUTED AREAS

GF080624 Doha AR-RAYAH in Arabic 6 Mar 82 p 1

[Editorial: "Unacceptable Provocations"]

[Text] Qatar is not and never will be an aggressive country. Neither has it or will it claim or demand what does not belong to it in terms of territory, islands, land or territorial waters. At the same time, Qatar will not remain indifferent toward any provocation or aggression against any of its legitimate rights that are within its clear geographic and political borders and that are evident to all those who know the truth and recognize it.

Qatar has not and will not spare any efforts to resolve disputes between it and its brothers peacefully and wisely out of its concern for the strong fraternal relations between them and in order to avoid what might disturb the fraternal Arab atmosphere, particularly among the region's states.

Therefore, Qatar pledged to handle the dispute between it and Bahrain over Hawar Island and other territorial waters in a manner that may bring an end to this dispute in a friendly manner, satisfy both parties and avoid an exaggeration or negligence of its legitimate and historic rights.

Qatar has accepted the mediation of an elder sister state in this issue. It showed readiness and truthfulness in order to end this dispute and remove forever the last disturbing element in relations between the two fraternal countries.

Despite all this, fraternal Bahrain has not left any room for the efforts to serve both countries in this regard. Bahrain has continued over the years to violate all laws and international conventions that prohibit any state from carrying out cultural, economic or military activities in a disputed region.

From time to time Qatar has issued statements denouncing Bahrain's violations in order to draw the attention of the Arabs and the world to them and, at the same time to call for the restoration of its legitimate rights to Hawar Island and its territorial waters.

The conduct of fraternal Bahrain during the past 2 days has transgressed beyond all bounds and provoked Qatar's patience and wisdom to the maximum. This resulted from the launching of a new boat with the name "Hawar" followed by Bahraini naval maneuvers in Fasht ad-Dibal, which according to all conventions is subject to Qatari sovereignty. Both events were a calculated provocation without consideration of even the most basic international laws or even the close fraternal relations between both peoples.

It was natural that Qatar replied with such a statement as the one that was issued yesterday, Thursday. It was also natural, and it is Qatar's unquestionable right, to note clearly the legitimacy of any step it might take to preserve its rights and sovereignty over its territories and waters.

We are still hopeful that this cloud which has disturbed relations between the two fraternal states will vanish and that our brothers in Bahrain will respond to the call of logic, goodwill and the interest of both peoples, the region and the Arab nation. We are hopeful that we will hear only the voice of truth and no work except that of justice, taking into consideration the concern of Qatar, its amir, its government and its people to hold fast to Qatar's right of absolute sovereignty over its territories without concessions or negligence.

SAUDI ARABIA

LEADERS ARRIVE FOR ISLAMIC CONFERENCE MEETING

'Arafat Arrives

LD051014 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0945 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Jidda, 5 Mar (SPA) -- Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived here today. He is a member of the Islamic good offices committee. He was welcomed at the airport by His Royal Highness Amir Sa'ud ibn 'Abd al-Muhsin, deputy governor of Mecca, and Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization. 'Arafat expressed optimism regarding the success of the work of the committee and said it will achieve good results because the principles it had laid down were acceptable to both sides. He said he would be submitting new ideas which might facilitate a solution to the Gulf war.

Comments on Meeting

LD052234 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2017 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Jidda, 5 Mar (SPA) -- Mr Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and member of the Good Offices Committee, in a statement to the press expressed his hope that the meeting of the Good Offices Committee will bring about good results that will lead to the termination of the existing war between Iran and Iraq from which no one is benefiting except the enemies of the Arab and Islamic nation.

On the PLO's role in the mediation, Mr 'Arafat said the organization will not stop its good efforts until this futile war is stopped.

Activities in Riyadh

JN071636 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is reported to have met today with Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia. He also met with Saudi ambassador to Lebanon, Maj Gen 'Ali ash-Sha'ir, with whom he had a 3-hour long discussion in the context of the Good-Will Commission of the Islamic Conference to end the Iraq-Iran war.

Yesterday, 'Arafat met with Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure.

Commenting yesterday on Zionist leader Begin's statements that Israel would not attack Lebanon, 'Arafat is reported to have said that Begin took care to speak of Lebanon and not of those in Lebanon, i.e., the Palestinians. He added that, in any event, Begin would find the Palestinian resistance ready to resist any attack.

Pakistani President

LD040944 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2112 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Jidda, 4 Mar (SPA) -- Pakistani President Ziaul Haq arrived in Jidda this evening to attend meetings of the Islamic Good Offices Committee which will begin here tomorrow, Friday.

In a statement on arrival Ziaul Haq said he hopes the committee will succeed in finding a solution to the Iraq-Iran war Ending this war, he said, is of great concern for us, for the committee and for the Islamic world, as it will end the shedding of Islamic blood.

Guinea President, Others

LD051020 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0920 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Jidda, 5 Mar (SPA) -- His Excellency Ahmed Sekou Toure, president of Guinea and chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee, arrived here this morning. He was welcomed on arrival by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud ibn 'Abd al-Muhsin, deputy governor of Mecca, and by Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization. The Guinean president was accompanied by Senegalese Foreign Minister Moustapha Niasse and Gambian Foreign Minister Lamin Kiti Jabang.

President Ahmed Sekou Toure expressed hope that the Islamic Good Offices Committee, which will begin its meeting later today, will achieve positive aspects that will in turn realize reconciliation between Iraq and Iran. In a statement to SPA he pointed out that the committee has new ideas derived from the experience it has accumulated since the beginning of the war between the two countries. He added that the committee will review these ideas in order to approve them. He said he has great hope both sides will accept the committee's proposals because the committee is supported by the Islamic world and because the peace-loving nations are striving to achieve a comprehensive peace between the two sides.

ISLAMIC GOOD OFFICES COMMITTEE HOLDS MEETING

LD052030 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1720 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Jidda, 5 Mar (SPA) -- The Islamic Good Offices Committee for solving the Iraqi-Iranian conflict began its meetings here this evening under the chairmanship of Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure.

Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure expressed his hope that the meetings of the committee would lead to decisive results in the realization of the hope of every Muslim in the world for an end to the fighting and the return of peace, amity and Islamic brotherhood so that the [Islamic nation] will become stronger and so that its accomplishments will be bolstered.

President Sekou Toure called on Iran and Iraq to cooperate with the committee so that it could continue the efforts it has expanded since its establishment by the third Islamic Conference summit which was held at At-Ta'if.

The Guinean president indicated that he was going to ask the committee, at the end of its proceedings, to endorse a resolution praising the role played in the Good Offices Committee by the late president of Bangladesh, Ziaur Rahman.

The president of Bangladesh made a speech expressing his thanks for the resolution which was to be adopted by the committee on praising the late President Ziaur Rahman's role. He said the resolution would express the committee's appreciation of President Ziaur Rahman's efforts for the success of the work of the Good Offices Committee, and he praised the efforts expended by the committee's members for the realization of peace between Iraq and Iran.

After President Abdus Sattar finished his speech, the closed meetings of the committee began.

Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure held discussions with Pakistini President Ziaul Haq, Yasir 'Arafat and Habib Chatti before the start of the committee's meetings in order to evaluate the general situation of the Good Offices Committee's work and its search for objective solutions within the framework of the efforts which it has expended to end the Iraqi-Iranian dispute.

At the end of the first meeting of the Islamic Good Offices Committee the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, Habib Chatti, announced that the committee, at the beginning of its session, expressed regret over the loss of President Ziaur Rahman. Afterwards it held a closed session during which the secretary's report on the subjects and activity of the committee in the last few months were discussed.

Chatti added that the viewpoints at the meeting were harmonious and integral and basically relied on a need to continue the work by the committee to achieve the objective which the Islamic nation assigned to it through the At-Ta-'if conference -- namely, to continue direct contact with the two sides.

He said that the committee will hold another meeting tomorrow morning after which the members will go to Riyadh for a working session in response to the invitation of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abn al-'Aziz.

He noted that the committee will continue its meetings after its return from Riyadh in order to adopt positive resolutions. Habib Chatti expressed optimism about the meeting.

On whether or not the committee will go to Tehran and Baghdad, Chatti said there is agreement on this matter but the committees have not yet been set up.

He added that the general principle is to continue the work and direct contact.

He said no contacts were made with Tehran. He affirmed that the two sides have confidence in the committee and they demand it should continue its work. He said this is evidence they want to end the conflict. He added that there are no concessions from either side. He said the committee will carry out its task in accordance with the recommendations of the Islamic summit conference.

King Receives Committee Members

LD061100 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1025 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Riyadh, 6 Mar (SPA) -- His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today held a meeting with the members of the Islamic Good Offices Committee, led by President of Guinea Ahmed Sekou Toure immediately on the committee's arrival here.

The meeting was attended by Second Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the National Guard, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and the Ministers of Defense and Aviation, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Foreign Minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal met with the foreign ministers of the member-countries of the committee and reviewed with them topics the committee discussed during its 2-day meeting.

The committee was set up by the Islamic summit conference held in Mecca and at At-Ta'if to solve the conflict between Iraq and Iran.

'Arafat Addresses Committee

JN061644 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Excerpts] The good will commission of the Islamic Conference Organization held its first session yesterday evening at the Al-Hamrah Castle in Jidda in its on-going efforts to bring an end to the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Participating in the commission's meetings along with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat are Presidents Ahmed Sekou Toure of Guinea, Abdus Sattar of Bangladesh, Ziaul Haq of Pakistan, the prime ministers of Turkey and Malaysia and the Senegalese foreign minister.

The commission's meetings began with an address by Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti. 'Arafat then gave a detailed survey of the developments of the fighting between the two belligerents and presented proposals which were registered in the commission's works agenda.

'Arafat, for his part, disclosed in a press conference after the session that there are major Israeli military concentrations in south Lebanon. He said that before he went to Jidda to attend these meetings, he was in the frontlines of confrontations where three to four Israeli brigades are massed. He added that Begin yesterday said that he will launch an operation of liquidation against the Palestinian people. He then remarked that Begin was being held back from launching such an aggression by the knowledge that he will face heavy losses as he did in last July's war in south Lebanon.

Guinean President Comments

LD062008 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Excerpts] The Islamic Good Offices Committee for ending the conflict between Iraq and Iran ended its meetings at 1800 this afternoon at the Al-Hamrah Palace in Jidda. The committee held its fourth meetings this afternoon under the chairmanship of Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure and in the presence of committee members.

In a press communique released at the conclusion of the committee meetings, the Guinean president emphasized that the Islamic Good Offices Committee has met in a fresh session following previous sessions to seek a solution to the problem between the two fraternal neighboring states of Iraq and Iran. President Sekou Toure said the Islamic Good Offices Committee submitted proposals last April to the two countries. It had contacts with them and obtained their replies; in light of these replies the committee, last March made new proposals by amending the old ones. In this session, he said, the committee examined the situation in general and decided to contact the two sides once more to present them with fresh proposals.

The Guinean president added in the press communique that in order that the entire committee -- consisting of eight heads of state and government and the secretary-general of the (Islamic) Organisation -- would not have to make the trip, it was decided that a subcommittee should travel to Baghdad and Tehran tomorrow, composed of the Guinean president, Pakistani President Muhammad Ziaul Haq, President of Bangladesh 'Abdus Sattar, Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu and Secretary General of the (Islamic) Organisation Habib Chatti.

He said this subcommittee would travel to Baghdad tomorrow and would come back on the same day to meet with all the committee members in Jidda, and present a report on whatever information it obtained from Iraq. Next Monday the committee will leave for Tehran and will return on the same day to meet in a general session. It will then discuss what it obtained in Baghdad and compared it with what it obtained in Tehran, with a view to working out decisions needed in this situation. President Sekou Toure expressed optimism for the committee and its absolute faith in peace. He said: Our committee will succeed, with the help of God, because this war has been going on for 18 months and has resulted in many victims as well as damage to the Islamic nation in general.

The Guinean president stressed that the two sides would move toward an ideal solution that would enable each of them to build their country and ensure development and prosperity. At the conclusion of the communique, President Sekou Toure said: King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, chairman of the Islamic Conference Organisation, received us today and voiced the hope that the committee would achieve its aspirations and that all its work would be successful.

Delegation Visits Iraq

LD071846 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1810 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] The Islamic Good Offices Committee, led by Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure, returned to Jidda this evening. Among the members of this committee are President of Pakistan Ziaul Haq; President of Bangladesh Mr Justice Abdus Sattar; Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu; and the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization. The committee returned from Baghdad following a very brief visit to Iraq during which the committee met with officials of the Iraqi Government to discuss the efforts being made by the committee to solve the Iraq-Iran conflict.

The commission was welcomed on return by Deputy Governor of Jidda Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman as-Sudayri; Commander of the Western Region Gen Mansur ash-Shu' Aybi; Head of the Royal Protocol in Jidda 'Abd al-'Aziz Jukhdar; and a number of officials.

The Guinean president said the committee has put forward specific and extensive plans aimed at achieving peace and suitable solutions for the Iraqi-Iranian conflict. In a statement made to SPA on his return, he said the committee found total understanding of the peace process from the Iraqi officials. He described the talks in Baghdad as good and positive.

President Sekou Toure pointed out that the committee's forthcoming talks in Tehran will allow it to complete the peace process. He declined to reveal anything in this regard before meeting with Iranian officials and pointing out to them the attitude of Iraq, and then outlining the attitudes of both countries at a suitable time. The Guinean president reaffirmed that the mission is being carried out in response to an appeal by the entire Muslim nation and that such a comprehensive appeal will be heard and respected, no doubt. He expressed the hope that this mission will lead to the realization of peace between the two Muslim countries as well as the realization of Islamic understanding and fraternity.

Delegation Departs for Tehran

LD080814 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0750 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Jidda, 8 Mar (SPA) -- The subcommittee of the Islamic Good Offices Committee dealing with the Iraq-Iran conflict left Jidda this morning for Tehran. The committee is headed by Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure.

The Islamic Good Offices Committee met last night to review the results of the subcommittee's visit to Iraq yesterday, a visit which was the start of a new bid to end the war between Iraq and Iran.

Following the committee's meeting last night the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, Habib Chatti, said that the committee's meeting was extremely encouraging.

The subcommittee is due back in Jidda this evening after it explains Iraq's stand to the Iranian officials.

ROYAL COURT COMMUNIQUE ON REDUCED OIL PRODUCTION

LD061236 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1120 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Riyadh, 6 Mar (SPA) -- Communique from the Royal Court:

His majesty's government has always applied an oil policy stemming from the short and long-term interest of his people and based on objective economic studies devoid of demogogy and improvization.

Since 1979 we have drawn attention to the fact that running after an increase in oil prices, without self-restraint and consideration, will lead to an acute fall in consumption, and ultimately to a glut in oil which will inflict great damage on the OPEC-member countries themselves. His majesty's government has always adopted well-known positions to check those who wanted to increase their prices illogically, but our success was very limited. Some tendentious circles accused us then of being reactionary and of opposing the interests of the peoples. Now when, very much to our regret, everything which we have warned against and drawn attention to has become a reality and the demand for OPEC oil has fallen from 31 million barrels per day in 1979 to less than 20 million barrels a day, and instead of some circles listening to the voice of logic and wisdom and studying the problem in an objective manner devoid of outcries and demogogy, some voices have been raised saying things which they do not understand in an attempt to mislead their own peoples and public opinion to the effect that they were not responsible for what has happened. They imagine that they, while blaming the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, can exonerate themselves from their responsibility before God, history and the awareness of the peoples.

His majesty's government, which has fully shouldered its responsibility before its own people and defended the common interest of the OPEC-member countries, recently made a sacrifice by raising its production in order to protect the interest of the peoples of the world, to check the frivolous people and to defend the interest of its own people in the future. It has now found itself compelled to adopt different positions which stem from the same objective. it has therefore gradually reduced its oil production from 10.5 million barrels per day to 9.5 barrels per day and then to 8.5 barrels per day. Following consultations with some sister countries in the Arabian Gulf it has now decided that its oil production for the month of March will be 7.5 million barrels per day. It [the kingdom] is watching the development of the situation, appreciates its seriousness and knows as everyone who has been protected by God from ignorance and demogogy knows, that the cause of the problem is the frivolous raising of oil prices and that being patient is the inevitable price that must be paid until the crisis is over — and it believes that the crisis will not be for a long time.

His majesty's government deems it its duty to warn those who have rushed to reduce the prices of their oil openly or otherwise that their behavior will lead to the collapse of the OPEC price structure and that they and the others will pay a costly price which they can ill-afford and that the reduction of their prices will not increase their sales but will ultimately lead to the collapse of their oil revenue. At this point his majesty's government will find itself helpless and unable to play its constructive role in protecting the common interests of the OPEC-member countries. God provides success and he is the one who guides us onto the right path.

YAMANI COMMENTS ON OPEC EMERGENCY SESSION

Not Needed

GF061239 Doha QNA in Arabic 1120 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Doha, 6 Mar (QNA) -- Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Saudi minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, has affirmed that there is no need for an emergency OPEC conference for the time being.

In a statement to reporters here today, the Saudi minister said that in his view the current OPEC price should remain unchanged, that is, $34 per barrel until 1983. Shaykh Yamani explained that Saudi oil production has dropped from 8.5 million barrels a day to 7.5 million barrels a day as of 1 March 1982. Saudi production was 8.505 million barrels per day in January, 8,539 million barrels per day in February.

Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani is currently participating in the second Arab energy conference that began in Doha today.

Now Possible

LD061348 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1320 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Doha, 6 Mar (SPA) -- Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani stated here today that the oil ministers of the OPEC member countries will hold an emergency meeting on 19 March in Vienna to discuss the oil surplus. In a statement made following the unofficial meeting here of the OPEC ministers Shaykh Yamani said that now it has become possible to hold a successful meeting of the ministers.

VERDICT HANDED DOWN IN AS-SADAT TRIAL 6 MAR

NC061804 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Proceedings of the 6 March session of the Egyptian Higher Military Court in Cairo held to hand down verdicts in the assassination case of the late President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat -- recorded; all names as heard]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate and the merciful. The verdict handed down in case No 7 for 1981 -- supreme military state security:

In the name of the people: Having taken cognizance of the charges, of Article 75 of the Martial Law Ordinance, of Articles 17, 30, and 32 of the penal code and of Article 604, criminal procedures law, and following the litigation prescribed by law, the court passes the following sentences [on the defendants] in their presence:

1. To punish defendants No 1) 1st Lt Khalid Ahmad Shawqi al-Islambuli; No 2) 'Abd al-Hamid 'Abd as-Salam 'Abd al-'Al 'Ali; No 3) 'Ata Tayil Humaydah Ruhayil; No 4) Volunteer Sergeant Husayn 'Abbas Muhammad; and No 5) Muhammad 'Abd as-Salam Faraj 'Atiyah with death by consensus on the two charges preferred against each one of these defendants.

2. To punish defendants No 11) Lt Col 'Abbud 'Abd al-Latif Hasan Hasan az-Zumur; No 14) Tariq 'Abd al-Mawjud Ibrahim az-Zumur; No 15) Muhammad Tariq Ibrahim Muhammad; No 16) Usamah as-Sayyid Muhammad Qasim; and No 17) Salah as-Sayyid Bayyumi 'Ali with life imprisonment at hard labor on the two charges preferred against each of them.

3. To punish defendants No 6) Karam Muhammad Zuhdi Sulayman; No 7) Fu'ad Mahmud Ahmad Ahmad Hanafi, alias Fu'ad ad-Dawalibi; No 8) 'Asim 'Abd al-Majid Muhammad Madi, and No 9) Usamah Ibrahim Hafiz with imprisonment at hard labor for 15 years on the charge brought against each of them under Clause 3 of the bill of indictment, and to acquit each of them of the accusations leveled under Clause 6 of the bill of indictment.

4. To punish defendants No 12) Salih Ahmad Salih Jahin; No 22) 'Abdallah Muhammad Muhammad Salim; and No 23) Safwat Ibrahim Hamid al-Ashwah with imprisonment at hard labor for 15 years on the charges brought against each of them under Clause No 5 of the bill of indictment, and to acquit each of them of the charge preferred against them under Clause 6 of the bill of indictment.

5. To punish defendant No 20) Muhammad Tariq Isma'il al-Masri with 15 years imprisonment at hard labor on the two charges brought against him.

6. To punish defendants No 18) 'Ala' ad-Din 'Abd al-Mun'im Muhammad Ibrahim; No 19) Anwar 'Abd al-'Azim Muhammad Muhammad 'Ukashah; and No 21) 'Ali Muhammad Farraj 'Ali with imprisonment for 10 years at hard labor on the charge brought against them under Clause 6 of the bill of indictment, and to acquit each of them of the accusation preferred against him under Clause 5 of the bill of indictment.

7. To punish defendant No 13) 'Abd an-Nasir 'Abd 'Alim Ahmad Durrah with 5 years imprisonment at hard labor on the charge preferred against him under Clause 5 of the bill of indictment, and to acquit him of the charge brought against him under Clause 6 of the bill of indictment.

8. The court has decided to acquit defendants No 10) Dr 'Umar Ahmad 'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman, and No 25) As-Sayyid 'Ali Muhammad Isma'il as-Salamuni of the charges preferred against them.

9. To confiscate all the objects seized as well as the arms and ammunition seized in this case. The court estimated the legal fees of the delegated lawyers at 100 pounds for each defendant on whose behalf a plead was made.

This verdict has been handed down and has been pronounced publicly in Cairo's (al-Jabal al-Ahmar) area at the court session on Saturday, 6 March 1982. The session is adjourned.

15 Days to Appeal

NC061825 Cairo MENA in English 1755 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 6 Mar (MENA) -- MENA has learnt that the military court will announce within three weeks the whereases of its verdicts against the twenty-four defendants accused of killing the late leader Anwar as-Sadat prior to endorsement of these verdicts.

Grievances of the defendants will be accepted within fifteen days after the endorsement.

Cairo Press Praises Verdict

NC062302 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2150 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 6 Mar (MENA) -- Reports of the sentences passed today in the case of the assassination of the late leader Anwar as-Sadat dominate the press headlines and front and inside pages of Cairo papers to be published Sunday. These sentences also dominate the press comments and editorials.

The newspapers are unanimous in their commentaries that these sentences have put an end to a tragedy that deeply shocked Egypt and the whole world and have affirmed the people's faith in right-justice and the rule of law.

In its commentary, AL-AHRAM says that the crime of assassinating As-Sadat was alien to the nature of the Egyptian people, who throughout their long history have been characterized by high cultural values and who have obtained from their religion and the spirit of their successive generations the noble traditions of love, harmony, forebearance and the call for wisdom and good counsel.

The paper adds: Leaders are human beings who make mistakes and do good things and who are not infallible prophets. Thus, it is foolish for an individual to think that he has the right to pass sentence on others to the extent of assassinating them, let alone those youths who lacked knowledge of the world and of religion, and who allowed themselves to be misled by others and to be drawn into labyrinths according to the whims of claimants and exploiters.

The paper calls for the need to awaken the national conscience in our youths to make them belong somewhere and not stray. It says that the best means for this great revival is to make them share in everything small and big, particularly in what relates to their lives and future.

AL-AKHBAR says that the sentences against As-Sadat's assassins are convincing proof that crime does not pay, that terrorism is futile and that chaos cannot coexist with the life of nations and peoples and cannot be characteristic of the life of a civilized nation enjoying a respected place among the civilized nations.

The paper adds that these sentences have also affirmed the people's faith that the rule of law is stronger than terrorism and has safeguarded society from being a target of terrorism and an arena of chaos.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says that the sentences express the rejection of bloody terrorism which hides behind religious slogans and claims, the deviation of which has been unanimously proven. It adds that these sentences are of utmost importance, because they are part of society's efforts to resist the detested wave of terrorism.

The paper says that the point which must not be forgotten is that terrorism is a social and political phenomenon before being a policy plot and a criminal case. There is no doubt that resisting terrorism basically demands the uprooting of the general climate in which terrorism lives. It also demands exerting great and intensive efforts in the Egyptian street, so that we will not be forced to handle its last stages with police measures and military trials.

AL-AHRAM on Verdicts

NC080904 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0725 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 8 Mar (MENA) -- The Supreme Military Court sitting under Maj Gen Dr Samir Fadil has begun writing the reasons for the verdict it handed down against the 24 accused in the case of the assassination of departed leader Anwar as-Sadat. The verdict provides for the execution of 5 of the accused and for the imprisonment at hard labor of 17 others for periods ranging between 5 and 17 years and the acquittal of two others.

In today's edition, AL-AHRAM says the court had no opportunity to write the reasons before it decided to pronounce judgment in the case only 48 hours after the conclusion of the pleadings.

It is known that according to the military law, the court must deposit the reasons for the verdict within 30 days but the court is expected to do so earlier.

AL-AHRAM clarifies that after depositing the reasons for the verdict, military law stipulates that the case should be submitted to the general department of the armed forces military judiciary, which is headed by Maj Gen Hamid Hammuday, for a comprehensive study of all the aspects of the case, the verdict passed, its objective and legal reasons.

AL-AHRAM says that following this, the general department will prepare a memorandum on the endorsement of the veridct and will submit it to the endorsing officer. In this case the endorsing officer is the president of the republic, who has the right to endorse the verdict in its present form or amend it in the interest of any of the accused if he finds a reason for such an amendment. Following the endorsement, the persons sentenced will be notified of the endorsement of the veridict.

The paper points out that following this notification, the persons sentenced will have a 15-day period in which to submit appeals for reconsideration. According to the law, the petitions must be based on one of the reasons for challenging the verdict at a court of cassation. In other words, the petitions must be confined to the legal aspects of the case: misapplication or misinterpretation of the law, the invalidity of the procedures or wrong conclusions.

AL-AHRAM says that the reconsideration petitions will be considered with the knowledge of the military contests office at the military judiciary department and that this will be the final stage after which the death sentence will be executed if the petition is rejected. However, the acquittal sentences and the sentences related to the deprivation of freedom such as imprisonment and hard labor sentences are implemented immediately after issuance.

AL-AHRAM says that 19 of the accused, who are subject to the verdict in the case of the assassination of the departed leader, will be included in the commitment decision which the supreme state security's prosecution is now preparing in the case of the New Struggle [Al-Jihad al-Jadid] organization which includes 1,000 defendants who are accused of attempting to overthrow the regime, assassinating policemen in Asyut and attacking installations and security men.

AL-AHRAM points out that the 19 accused were only tried for their participation in the deliberate assassination of President as-Sadat and 7 other persons, and wounding 28 more persons who were with the president at the reviewing stand. They still face charges of participating in the aforementioned terrorist organization with a view to overthrow the regime and of leading some groups in Asyut which attacked the security directorate and police branches and killed about 80 police officers and men.

AL-JUMHURIYAH on As-Sadat Case

NC060817 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 6 Mar 82

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-JUMHURIYAH says: This morning, the Higher Military Court will pronounce the sentence in the case of leader Anwar as-Sadat's assassination. Meanwhile, the prosecution is expected to announce in the next few days the bill of indictment in the case of the extremist, terrorist religious Al-Jihad organization.

The paper adds that the case of Al-Jihad organization is no less dangerous than the As-Sadat assassination case, nor is it separated from it. Investigations have revealed that As-Sadat's murderers constituted part of this terrorist organization and that the assassination of As-Sadat was simply a prelude to a wide-scale bloody scheme designed to liquidate everybody -- government and opposition alike.

For months, the world's eyes have been focused on the facts of the trial of those who are accused of assassinating As-Sadat. Throughout these months, those who are defending the accused have been given a complete opportunity to present their political and legal defense. In itself, the trial has been a proof of the supremacy of the law and confidence in the fairness of the genuine Egyptian judiciary.

The paper points out that whatever the sentences pronounced today are, we are all confident they will confirm the Egyptian people's rejection of bloody terrorism, the exploitation of religion and the spread of anarchy and fear among the citizens as well as the spirit of vengeance -- things which have been revealed by the investigations into the two cases.

AL-JUMHURIYAH concludes its article by emphasizing that the sentences that will be issued today, in addition to the prosecution's bill of indictment in the case of Al-Jihad organization, constitute part of the comprehensive struggle which all of Egypt is waging against terrorism in all its forms as well as against the climate in which terrorism originates.

Defense Lawyers Protest

NC052332 Paris AFP in English 2311 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Cairo, 5 Mar (AFP) -- The lawyers defending the 24 presumed assassins of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat have rejected records produced by the military court judging the case, their spokesman said here today.

They challenged the competence of the court and said they had mobilized the opposition in parliament to urgently plead their cause with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

Speaking for all of the defense attorneys, 'Abd al-Halim Ramadan charged that the military (?code) had used torture to obtain confessions, had falsified protocols, modified dates [words indistinct] documents.

Mr Ramadan complained that the presiding judge could not be reached to be handed the protest and that the military police in charge of security had refused to pass on the document, or give out the judge's private address.

Defense Lawyer Arrested

NC071917 Paris AFP in English 1908 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Cairo, 7 Mar (AFP) -- Egyptian security forces have arrested 'Abd al-Halim Ramadan, lawyer for the main defendant in the just-concluded trial of the assassins of President Anwar as-Sadat, informed sources here said today.

Mr Ramadan's office was searched by police during the arrest yesterday, the sources added.

The lawyer had been charged with insulting the military court where the As-Sadat assassination trial was being held and had been barred from the trial's last sessions. His client, Lt Khalid al-Islambuli, was among five men sentenced to death when the verdicts were handed down yesterday.

Lawyers Issue Statement

NC052210 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1955 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 5 Mar (MENA) -- The lawyers Association Council issued the following statement after a meeting it held last night:

On the evening of 1 March 1982, the association received a letter from the military public prosecutor's office notifying it that at the request of the Supreme Military Court an investigation will start of Lawyer 'Abd al-Halim Ramadan concerning the statements he made during the court's session that day -- statements which are considered in contempt of court and which are punishable under article 133, paragraph 2 of the penal code.

The military public prosecutor attached to his letter a copy of the court's session No 747/748 held on the morning of that day. During that session, the court rejected a request by the lawyer to suspend the case. This prompted him to declare that he will sue the court, directing at the court some words that are contained in the minutes of the session and that the court considered as insulting.

The dean of the lawyers convened a meeting of the office of the general association's council attended by some of the council's members. He also immediately contacted the Cairo branch of the association, asking it to send one of its members to attend the investigation and drawing attention to the fact that article 95 of the lawyers law does not permit the arrest or imprisonment of a lawyer on charges of slander or contempt because of words or writings issued by him while practicing his profession. The accused lawyer was interrogated and was then allowed to leave. He was referred to the central military court for trial.

In conducting the investigation of him, the military prosecution asserted that it was practicing the powers of the public prosecution within the jurisdiction of the military judiciary, which is empowered to examine this case under articles five and seven of the military laws.

The association council, while expressing deep regret at what happened and what resulted from it, recalls the decision it issued at its meeting on 3 January 1982 following the withdrawal of some lawyers from the defense council. That decision made it possible for the defense council to continue to perform its duty within the framework of the cooperation that must dominate the relationship between the defense council and the court.

In light of the current circumstances through which our homeland is passing, the council believes that the treatment of what happened and what resulted from it must be done cautiously, far from excitement and in accordance with the traditions of the lawyers profession and the principles of the Egyptian judiciary.

In this connection, the council would like to draw attention to the following facts:

1. The military courts in our Egyptian system have certain jurisdictions which are given to it by the constitution and under the law. In practicing these jurisdictions, these courts enjoy the same rights, have the same confidence and practice the same responsibilities practiced by ordinary military courts. Moreover, the defense enjoys before them the same rights it enjoys before ordinary courts and adheres to its duties, including respect for the court in accordance with Article 47 of the association's bylaws.

2. Court procedures, including military court procedures, and their rules must be respected. They can only be amended or cancelled through the procedure prescribed by the law. The traditions of the lawyers profession do not permit the discussion of these procedures and rules in public meetings or press conference or that they be exploited for political ends. Trials should not be transferred outside the halls of the courts, but must be conducted in a dignified and calm atmosphere far from any influence.

3. The law has prescribed the cases in which judges could be sued and has organized the procedures for doing this in a way that preserves the dignity and prestige of the courts that does not obstruct the progress of justice.

4. True patriotism in the present circumstances dictates that we should not adopt stands that could corrupt the democratic climate which President Muhammad Husni Mubarak is trying to provide in these delicate circumstances through which the country is passing while it is looking forward to recover the remaining part of Sinai in a few weeks' time.

The association council, while paying attention to this subject and careful not to interfere in the affairs of the courts, will not hesitate to exercise its responsibility prescribed by the lawyers law when there is evidence that there has been a violation of professional conduct as dictated by the ethics and traditions of the lawyers profession.

AL-AKHBAR Assails Haykal

PM051205 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 2 Mar 82 pp 1, 3

[Musa Sabri editorial: "A Mission for Men, Not a Role for Snakes"]

[Excerpts] The Australian millionaire Murdoch, who is a prominent Jewish financier and businessman, pays "Egyptian" writer Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal 1 pound for every word he writes. For writing six words, for example, Haykal would get 6 pounds. This is what Haykal himself said at a seminar organized by AL-MUSAWWAR magazine. He spoke about his pay from the [London] SUNDAY TIMES, which is one of the papers owned by Murdoch in Britain, the United States and Australia. The editor of the SUNDAY TIMES is also a personal friend of that "Egyptian" writer.

If Haykal's aim is to show that he is the most highly paid writer in the world, this does not give him the right to write an article for that Murdoch-owned newspaper portraying the Egyptian people as savages who admire crime and assassination, who are cowardly and ungrateful and who readily smear the reputation of the leader they once applauded, forgetting that he had rid the country of the Soviet military presence, raised the country's head and honor high with the glorious October victory and earned the highest esteem for Egypt with his decision to establish a peace which has liberated the land from Israeli occupation.

The fact that 1 or 5 pounds are paid for every written word does not empower any "Egyptian" writer to say that As-Sadat's murderers are national heroes, or say that if As-Sadat's murderers are sentenced to death, the day of their execution would be a sad day for Egypt. Haykal has written this and has claimed that this is the opinion of the Egyptian people.

It follows, if one is to interpret these words, that if the murderer is a national hero then the murdered man must be a national traitor, and if the day of the murderer's execution is going to be a sad day then the day of the murder must have been a happy day.

This is the conclusion to be drawn from the writings of one who boasts that he is the most highly paid writer in the world.

All the released political detainees have gratefully committed themselves to a new page and none of them has tried to defame, slander or tarnish the image of the late leader -- except one person: Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal, who enjoyed complete freedom under As-Sadat's regime, including the freedom to write and charge a pound per word.

The attitude of Haykal does not surprise me, but the attitude of a former member of the Revolution Command Council and a one-time vice president under President as-Sadat does surprise and sadden me. He is Husayn ash-Shafi'i who was As-Sadat's vice president for 4 years. He has written three articles for the Saudi newspaper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, published in London and distributed in the Arab countries, in which he charged that As-Sadat was a partner in 'Abd al-Hakim 'Amr's plot to overthrow 'Abd an-Nasir's regime in 1968. He also said that he did not attend As-Sadat's funeral because he does not go to the funerals of hypocrites, and that As-Sadat was the one to broadcast the 23 July Revolution's first proclamation over the radio because the leaders of the revolution were busy doing important things while As-Sadat had no role to play, etcetera, etcetera. This kind of talks is truly amazing. I ask Ash-Shafi'i: Why then, sir, did you remain vice president under that man for 5 long years during which you traveled abroad as his envoy. You did not even resign. You were deposed from that post. When Mamduh Salim conveyed the decision to you, your comment was: This is the president's consitutional right.

Another former member of the Revolution Command Council, Kamal as-Din Huayan, has also behaved like Ash-Shafi'i in that he has written similar articles for certain Arab newspapers. The only difference is that whereas Ash-Shafi'i attacked As-Sadat, Kamal ad-Din Husayn attacked both As-Sadat and 'Abd an-Nasir.

Wake up gentlemen, and look at Egypt. Give something that will enrich it. Devote your minds to whatever is good for Egypt and to whatever is useful. Do not be self-centered and self-seeking. Be motivated by love. If you must voice a testimony then have a conscience and tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. If you must discuss the past be objective.

PRESS DISCUSSES INDICTMENT AGAINST 'JIHAD' GROUP

NC052342 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 5 Mar (MENA) -- The indictment in the case of the terrorist organization will be issued before the end of this week. The indictment covers 1,000 defendants, including the 24 defendants who participated in the assassination of President as-Sadat.

In Saturday's edition AKHBAR AL-YAWM explains that the indictment covers the defendants who carried out the incidents of sectarian sedition and the Asyut and the pyramids incidents. It adds that the indictment will reveal the leaders of the organization.

Meanwhile, in Saturday's edition AL-AHRAM says that the investigations which the supreme state security prosecution has conducted of the leaders and groups of this organization have revealed incredible facts about the plans which the terrorists prepared to overthrow the regime.

So far, 1,020 members of the "Al-Jihad al-Jayyid" [good struggle] organization have been arrested, including the five groups which launched the surprise and treacherous attack on the central security forces and the police stations in Asyut, killing 80 of them. Other groups hurled bombs at police units and attacked policemen and seized their weapons.

AL-AHRAM publishes a statement by a responsible source in the tate intelligence department. He says that with the arrest of this number of members of the organization, which continued to work secretly with the support of terrorist organizations abroad, this organization has ceased to exist, particularly since the members of the organization's Consultative Council and its officials in the governorates and districts have been arrested. Only seven members of the organization are still at large and the state intelligence department is working hard to arrest them.

AL-AHRAM notes that the members of the organization have confessed that they killed several policemen and seized their weapons. They also burgled three jewelry shops and stole jewelry worth 50,000 pounds with the assistance of ordinary criminals to finance their plan. In addition, they tried to create sectarian sedition by burning some big mosques, such as the As-Sayyidah Zaynab mosque and the [Coptic] patriarchate, and by assassinating a number of Christian and Muslim men of religion. They confessed that they detonated the bomb at Masarrah church and tried to blow up the AL-AHRAM newspaper building.

In an editorial, AL-AHRAM says the Egyptian people will always denounce terrorism and reject it as a method to claim a desire to promote the word of God. It explains that terrorism is alien to Egyptian soil and nature. This is why the Egyptian people unanimously reject it, because religion in Egypt is firm and stable in its correct concept as a force for construction, not destruction, and for tolerance, not hatred.

Concluding, AL-AHRAM says that evil methods cannot achieve noble objectives. If the terrorists' intentions were good, they would have adopted noble methods. This is the concept of every work in Islam -- purity of purpose should be accompanied by purity of means.

MINISTER GHALI INTERVIEWED ON MITTERRAND VISIT

JN051936 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Interview with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent Huda Tawfiq within "It Happened Tomorrow" program -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Cairo is following with interest President Mitterrand's visit to Israel. This visit is very important particularly at this time which precedes Israel's final withdrawal from Sinai and before discussions eventually focus on the Palestinian issue. What are Your Excellency's views on this visit?

[Answer] This visit contains positive sides such as the French president's reference to the fight of self-determination for the Palestinian people and the need for the establishment of the Palestinian state, or rather the possibility of the establishment of a Palestinian state. This reference both to the self-determination and the establishment of the Palestinian state is in support of the Egyptian position in defense of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and the right of the Palestinian people to exercise their right to self-determination and have a Palestinian state if they wish.

[Question] It was observed that an open clash took place between the French president and the Israeli prime minister on the autonomy concept and whether the Israeli concept actually leads to a Palestinian solution, a matter to which Mitterrand objected. What is your opinion?

[Answer] The Egyptian concept of the autonomy is that this autonomy is merely a provisional measure to enable the Palestinian people to exercise their rights to self-determination. This difference of opinion on the concept of the autonomy is a support for the Egyptian concept as a provisional measure to enable the Palestinian people to exercise their right of self-determination.

[Question] French Minister of External Relations Claude Cheysson met with a number of West Bank Palestinian mayors. Do you think that this is the beginning of the actual dialogue between the world and the Palestinians especially since Haig and his delegation also met with the Palestinians?

[Answer] The Egyptian position has been taking the same form since the Egyptian memo which was presented to the United States and Israel on 13 October 1980. This position is that a contact must be established with the Palestinian people and that the autonomy negotiations without the presence of the Palestinian people have no real value. There has, therefore, been an Egyptian demand over the past 2 years that we must contact the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip so that we might be able to push ahead the peace process.

[Question] Can we assume that the French president's talks with the Israeli leaders might have a positive reaction in terms of pushing Israel toward realizing a just peace?

[Answer] We hope that the talks which took place between the French and Israeli sides will motivate the European group to have more interest in the cause of peace in the Middle East.

[Question] Will the affirmation in Israel itself of the Palestinian rights and state have positive results on the Palestinian cause?

[Answer] We hope that this will have an effect on Israeli public opinion. This will enable us to promote the process of peace in the Middle East.

'Ali on Mitterrand Stance

NC051436 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has said, in a statement to our correspondent, that Egypt welcomes French President Mitterrand's affirmation of the Palestinians' right to self-determination and of realizing mutual recognition between Israel and the Palestinians. He added that the French president is seeking a comprehensive solution of the conflict in the Middle East and that this solution naturally will not materialize without solving the Palestinian problem because the Camp David accords and the establishment of full autonomy is the first practical step for achieving this goal. Hence, the autonomy negotiations should lead to the establishment of self-rule. The French president's call for mutual recognition between Israel and the Palestinians is in line with what Egypt previously declared in this respect, namely the importance of exploiting the cease-fire in Lebanon for paving the way for the peace process and for other parties joining the negotiations so that a solution of the Palestine question can be achieved and a comprehensive peace in the Middle East can be established.

'Ali concluded his statement by saying that the talks he will hold Monday with Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon will be centered on the arrangements of the complete Israeli withdrawal from Sinai in April.

AL-AHRAM Hails Knesset Speech

NC080734 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 8 Mar (MENA) -- AL-AHRAM describes the speech delivered by French President Francois Mitterrand at the Israeli Knesset as a good approach to understanding the nature of the Middle East problem and the possibilities of its solution. It also expresses the French leadership's belief that the ideal solution is that which accomodates the rights of the two sides.

The paper refers in its commentary today to President Mitterrand's affirmation in his speech that the world cannot afford to allow another catastrophe which would threaten its security and that if there is a problem it must be solved through direct and indirect dialogue to be followed by mutual recognition and a review of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and setting up of the Palestinian state.

The paper also points out that President Mitterrand's speech shook the Israeli leadership and prompted it to fiercely attack the speech. It adds that this indicates that Israel still looks at the problem as one dragging in Palestine on the Israeli existence, which casts negative marks on this existence in the future.

AL-AHRAM concludes its commentary, saying: In spite of Israel's concern that all others recognize it within secure borders, it is still trying to contain the Palestinian problem within the framework of affiliation to the Israeli entity and not on the basis of the existence of another entity and separate identity that are subject to all that applies to other peoples and nations.

Cairo Radio Commentary

NC052140 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Usamah 'Abd al-Ghani commentary]

[Text] At the conclusion of his talks in Israel, French President Mitterrand affirmed his support of the Camp David accords and of the positive results of these accords. However, he described them as being limited and said that they cannot resolve the Palestine question.

In our view if resolving the Palestine question within the Camp David framework is meeting with difficulties, the reason is due to the extent of the sound application of these accords more than it is due to their letter or spirit. This is evident in that we observe the actual success in relation to the implementation of the Israeli evacuation from Sinai.

Perhaps this sound and committed application is linked to certain factors. The Israelis are convinced that the Egyptian people, who opposed invasion and occupation, refuse to allow part of their land to remain under foreign domination. Perhaps they saw in the Egyptians' eyes during the October battles what affirmed to them that there is no escape from settling through peaceful negotiations accounts that began on the battlefield. Concerning a solution of the Palestine question, we cite in this respect a statement by Israeli Deputy Prime Minister David Levi yesterday that Israel will never allow the establishment of a Palestinian state and that it will not restore the occupied West Bank to Jordan because it never belonged to Jordan. The Israelis, apart from their views linking security with settlements, continue to believe that the West Bank belonged to no one before the Israeli occupation or that it was not a homeland to a people. Perhaps this is part of the reason why the Israelis do not want to confront their responsibilities toward Palestinian autonomy with the same conviction as they are facing their responsibilities toward evacuating the Sinai.

Nevertheless, Egypt will not accept from Israel any justification preventing the acknowledgement of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people or a just solution of the Palestine question. Egypt has affirmed its rejection of the Israeli concept of security [words indistinct] security of all parties, not only Israel's security. Egypt has affirmed the Arab character of east Jerusalem and that it is part of the West Bank. Egypt has also rejected the colonization settlements. Egypt adheres to the principle that the proposed Palestinian authority in the West Bank and Gaza should enjoy all the powers now enjoyed by the Israeli administration there. Egypt's adherence to these principles is based on the provisions and spirit of the Camp David accords. Egypt will not be deterred from that by Israel's rejection.

Hence, judgment on the Camp David accords must not be based on what has been accepted or rejected from these accords. Otherwise, a judgment by this criterion on all initiatives and ideas for peace means the failure of all of them beginning from the Venice declaration to Prince Fahd's initiative and finally to President Mitterrand's statements in this respect in his speech before the Israeli Knesset. Mitterrand said that the PLO cannot share in the negotiations process unless it recognizes Israel's right to exist. PLO sources have declared their disappointment and rejection of this statement. They have said that they had hoped President Mitterrand would speak, while 4 million Palestinians were listening to him, about the suffering of the Palestinians under occupation or in exile. Does this rejection mean that President Mitterrand's views were unsuitable for contributing toward resolving the question? Egypt has never said so. It has expressed its support of all initiatives aimed at establishing peace in the Middle East.

SADDAM HUSAYN ADDRESSES FIGHTERS ON WAR WITH IRAN

JN042016 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Mar (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn has announced that after 1 and 1/2 years of fighting, Iraq's population has increased to more than 14 million.

Addressing fighters in one of the special task brigades camps in the Al-Anbar Governorate, President Saddam Husayn said that the Iraqis are now equal in enthusiasm and that the number of those who go to the battlefronts has increased, contrary to what has happened in Iran, where the number of men leaving for the battlefronts has decreased. He stressed that the theory which says that Iran is superior to Iraq in terms of its population is no longer valid. He added that this superiority in population and the strategic depth of the Iranian territory are the two advantages Iran had in the strategy of the war between us and Iran. He further said that the Iranian strategic depth was not a burden for Iraq in strategic considerations. He pointed out that Iraq did not want to go to Tehran so Tehran would not be a burden. However, he said, after destroying their concentrations on the border and after defeating the forces of darkness which used to shell the Iraqi cities and occupy Iraqi territories, we took up our defensive positions at a calculated depth as to ensure our pan-Arab security.

President Saddam Husayn stressed that Iran's population has begun to decrease and that only the killers in Iran support the aggressive feeling and desire against Iraq. In contrast, he said, all the Iraqis have become part of the forward trench which has enthusiasm for fighting until the enemy recognizes our legitimate rights and respects its neighbors. He also stressed that all the fighters believe in a firmly entrenched creed based on the legitimate right to live free and independent in our country, rejecting slavery, humiliation, usurpation, oppression and hegemony from any side whatsoever.

President Saddam Husayn said that it is the Tehran rulers who revived the negative aspect of history and it is they who perfectly expressed the grudge settling in their cosnciences and history against Iraq. He added that the Tehran rulers are cooperating with the Jews as they had previously done in order to harm Iraq and the Arab nation. He said that at a time when Iran is encroaching on Iraq, Zionism in Tel Aviv is raiding Iraq and sending weapons, experts and equipment to Tehran in an attempt to perpetuate aggression against Iraq.

President Saddam Husayn refuted Khomeyni's claims that Iran aimed against Iraq because the Iraqi people re heretics. He wondered how Iraq could be heretical when mosques and holy shrines are spread throughout it. He added: If the Iraqis are heretics, are they the only heretics in the world. Why does Khomeyni befriend and act leniently with regimes whose policy includes public heresy? The president wondered if there is a single Islamic state in the world which offers its people such social guarantees for a happy life as Iraq does. He stressed that the Iranian regime worked against Iraq in implementation of the suspect role entrusted to it and those working with it.

He stressed that the Iraqis have gained greater experience from fignting and more knowledge of life than they did during the first week of fighting evil. He said that the Iraqis are increasing in number and that they are all in one line defending great Iraq and its values. He added that Iraq will continue to fight the enemy until it yields to justice no matter how long that takes or how many sacrifices we have to offer. Nevertheless, he said, we are not warmongers and do not need war glories to keep our heads up and be noted by all. Our banner was high before the war and will remain high during and after the war. He stressed that Iraq will continue to increase the number of men sent to the battlefronts in order to further weaken the collapsing ruler and make him feel his inability.

ISLAMIC GOOD OFFICES SUBCOMMITTEE ARRIVES

JN071128 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Mar (INA) -- The Islamic subcommittee of the Islamic Good Offices Committee, headed by Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure, arrived here today.

Receiving the committee were President Saddam Husayn; 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice president; Vice President Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf; a number of RCC members and ministers.

The committee will meet later today with Iraqi officials concerning its efforts to solve the Iraqi-Iranian conflict. Then it will leave for Saudi Arabia to submit a report to a general meeting held by all the committee's members.

Subcommittee Departs

JN071623 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1540 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Mar (INA) -- The official talks between President Saddam Husayn and the Islamic Good Offices subcommittee led by Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure were held here today.

At the beginning of the talks, President Saddam Husayn welcomed the subcommittee's head and members and praised the efforts they are exerting to achieve peace between Iraq and Iran. He stressed that Iraq, which has cooperated with the committee positively and with a high feeling of responsibility since the committee began work last year, still adheres to the same positive spirit and will exert its utmost efforts to render the committee's efforts successful.

President Saddam Husayn stressed that peace between Iraq and Iran should be based on just and firm principles. He said that these are the principles Iraq has always defined in harmony with Islamic principles and international laws and legislation in which the Nonaligned Movement believes.

President Sekou Toure praised the positive stand of Iraq and President Saddam Husayn, expressing the hope that the committee would reach positive results in its efforts.

The Iraqi side to the talks was made up of 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman; Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf; Taha Yasin Ramadan, National Assembly speaker; Tariq 'Aziz and Sa'dun Ghaydan, RCC members and deputy prime ministers; Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, RCC secretary and acting chief of the president's office; and Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi.

The subcommittee, headed by President Sekou Toure, comprised Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, Bangladesh President Abdus Sattar, Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu and Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti.

INA has learned that Presidents Saddam Husayn and Ahmed Sekou Toure held a closed meeting this afternoon. President Saddam Husayn held a luncheon in honor of the subcommittee's chairman and members. The two sides' members attended it. The subcommittee left Baghdad this afternoon after a brief visit to Baghdad as part of its new mission. The subcommittee chairman and members were accorded an official sendoff, headed by President Saddam Husayn.

INA CITES KUWAITI DAILY ON IRANIAN DEFECTION

JN080846 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0825 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Kuwait, 8 Mar (INA) -- Press reports said here today that an Iranian pilot along with his Phantom aircraft defected to Saudi Arabia last Tuesday.

The newspaper AL-ANBA' reports that the Iranian Government has shrouded the incident with secrecy and refrained from asking Saudi Arabia to hand over the aircraft or the pilot.

The paper adds that the Iranian pilot was on a reconnaissance mission when he changed his course toward Saudi Arabia and expressed his desire to land and seek political asylum in Saudi Arabia. A Saudi air base command gave the pilot permission to land.

KURDS REPORTEDLY SHOOT DOWN THREE HELICOPTERS

JN062013 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Surani Kurdish 1500 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Zakhu -- At 0930 on 21 February, a large enemy force consisting of 11 helicopters and 1 armored personnel carrier attacked a joint Peshmerga force of the martyr Hamid Hafizallah group which belongs to the local committee in Zakhu and of the Ahmed Mirza group which belongs to the local committee in Al-'Imadiyah. Our hero fighters intercepted the enemy force and a 9-hour ferocious battle ensued. Our hero Peshmerga managed to shoot down three helicopters -- the first on the Mosul-Zakhu road, another near Zakhu and the third near the Zakhu division headquarters -- to destroy one armored personnel carrier and to kill one captain and 18 soldiers as well as to injure 16 others. Peshmerga hero Islam 'Uthman Jankir was martyred and six others were slightly wounded.

A thousand greetings to our martyr Jankir and to all martyrs of Kurdistan. We wish the wounded a speedy recovery.

NAVY COMMANDER DISCUSSES WAR OPERATIONS

JN061314 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] The commander of the navy and the coast guard has stressed that the courageous navy forces are alert to any movement of any navy unit belonging to the racist Persian enemy and that our men are capable of striking them and completely destroying them.

In a statement to the INA correspondent in the southern sector he said that the Iraqi Navy enjoys high morale and has the capability to deal severe blows to the Iranian Navy thanks to the wise leadership of the hero of pan-Arab liberation His Excellency President Saddam Husayn. He stressed that our young and small navy has succeeded in removing the battle capabilities of the Iranian Navy, which is known for its size.

The commander of the navy and coast guard explained that our naval units have sunk large numbers of enemy naval units and that its steel arms can reach any place that the leadership decides to strike in order to push the enemy into the depths of the sea.

On the northern area of the Arab Gulf, the commander of the navy and coast guard explained that this area has been banned to merchant vessels. This means that any vessel which takes the risk of entering this area will be the target of our gunboats. He said: Our navy sunk several merchant vessels in Khowr Musa before 11 January. On that day, our naval forces sunk a large merchant vessel and three gunboats which were escorting it. The enemy officially admitted that the vessel had been sunk but it did not admit the destruction of the other vessels. We have also informed the enemy that Khowr Musa, which is the waterway to Bandar Khomeyni and other enemy ports in the northern area of the Arab Gulf, is closed. This has largely affected the enemy's military and economic moves because it has only Bandar 'Abbas left which is situated south of the Arab Gulf near the Hormuz Strait and whose offloading and onloading capacities cannot compensate for Bandar Khomeyni.

The commander of the navy and the coast guard pledged to President Saddam Husayn that the navy, with its heroic men who have purged our pure waters from the evil of the usurper enemy, will protect our pure waters regardless of the sacrifices.

DAILY PUTS TOTAL IRANIAN DEAD AT 88,000

JN041426 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1350 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 4 Mar (INA) -- A press report published here today by ATH-THAWRAH said that in the war imposed on Iraq the Iranian enemy has so far sustained heavy losses in life and equipment. The report, published on the 18-month-old Iraqi-Iranian war, put the known enemy losses during that period at 88,000 dead, 2,925 tanks, 765 aircraft, 1,280 guns, 155 naval units, 638 troop carriers, 1,473 stockpiles of hardware, 4,050 vehicles and other varous weapons. The report stressed that Iraq is still the master of the military situation and that all the enemy attempts to move our forces from their strong positions have been doomed to failure.

The newspaper added: Iraq has waged its battle alone, depending on the capabilities of its people and revolution. However, the pan-Arab nature of the battle has created a new state of an overall pan-Arab awakening which prompted volunteers from various Arab countries to flock to their homeland's eastern flank in order to take part in the battle of Arabism and pan-Arab liberation.

Concluding, ATH-THAWRAH said: If anything new is going to happen in the next few months, it will be the fact that the Iraqis' victories will become greater and continue strongly, decisively and effectively and that the defeated enemy will collapse under our painful blows on the one hand and under the impact of its military, economic and security crises, conflicts and collapses on the other.

BULGARIA'S TODOROV MAKES STATEMENT, DEPARTS

JN041542 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1455 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Mar (INA) -- Stanko Todorov, chairman of the Bulgarian National Assembly, left Baghdad for home today at the end of a 6-day visit to Iraq.

Todorov expressed pleasure at visiting Iraq and said that his talks with Iraqi officials will strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries. In a predeparture statement, he highly evaluated the ambitious Iraqi development plans despite the war conditions. He added that his country will continue its contribution to the implementation of several projects in Iraq.

Todorov stressed that the promotion of cooperation between the Bulgarian National Assembly and the Iraqi National Assembly will further serve the fields of cooperation between the two countries. He stressed that Iraq and Bulgaria hold common views with regard to their stands against imperialism, Zionism and reactionaries as well as their struggle for the victory of the peoples' just causes.

RAZUQI MEETS WITH AUSTRALIA'S MCVEIGH FOR TALKS

JN041552 Baghdad INA in English 1540 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Mar (INA) -- Minister of Finance and Acting Minister of Planning Thamir Razuqi Thursday met the visiting Australian Minister of Housing and Construction Thomas McVeigh.

Aspects of further developing ties of cooperation between the two countries and means for promoting friendship were discussed during the meeting.

Mr McVeigh has been in Baghdad for several days leading his country's side to the meetings of the joint Iraqi-Australian committee for economic and technical cooperation.

MINISTER SAYS MORE THAN ONE N-REACTOR PLANNED

LD061508 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1422 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Doha, 6 Mar (KUNA) -- The minister of oil, Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, has stated that Iraq intends to build more than one nuclear reactor for peaceful purposes in order to build an economic foundation. He told KUNA in a private interview that the strike against the Iraqi nuclear reactor "expresses the civilizational battle which the Arab nation is waging against the Zionist entity." The minister mentioned recent statements by some officials in the Knesset to the effect that greater Israel's borders do not only extend from the Euphrates to the Nile but also to the oil fields.

AL-KARIM CHARGES WEST WITH COMPLICITY IN OIL GLUT

GF072110 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1430 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Doha, 7 Mar (WAKH) -- Mr Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, Revolution Council Command member and oil minister, described the current glut in the oil market as a conspiracy. Moreover, he charged the international energy and Western oil companies with being directly involved in it.

In a statement to journalists given here today, Mr Tayih 'Abd al-Karim stated that Western petroleum companies and industrial countries are behind this glut in an attempt to damage the price structure and to destroy OPEC and its achievements.

The oil minister stressed that this conspiracy will not succeed and that OPEC knows its responsibilities toward it. He added that OPEC also knows the dimensions and dangers of the conspiracy.

Mr Tayih 'Abd al-Karim noted that the West realizes the bargaining power of petroleum to OPEC countries and in the North-South dialogue. He added that the West wants to destroy OPEC's weapon to exploit the Third World and keep it in ignorance. He said that these attempts by the West are designed to ruin the role that OPEC and Third World countries are seeking in their attempt to establish a new international economic system based on equality in relations and not on interference in the internal affairs of countries.

The oil minister noted that the current glut in the oil market is an attempt to lower oil prices and, consequently, to limit the support and financial aid that OPEC countries have offered and will continue to offer to poor countries. It is designed to embroil them in the policies of the superpowers and to have conditions imposed on them for their aid in order to take away their independence and freedom.

The oil minister expressed the hope that the next OPEC conference would adopt suitable resolutions in view of the current situation in the oil market, which he referred to as painful and uncommon, by reviewing in a positive and responsible manner productio capabilities and the preservation of the price structure, which would demonstrate OPEC' determination to confront any challenge to defend its future.

Mr Tayih 'Abd al-Karim said that the agreement to hold an OPEC consultative meeting in Vienna on 19 March was a success for Iraq's efforts and a realization on the part of OPEC of its responsibilities in dealing with the surplus.

The oil minister praised the Saudi resolution on reducing its oil production by an average of one million barrels effective 1 March and said that this step was positive.

He added that the OPEC countries are prepared to reduce their current production.

The oil minister referred to the Iraqi working paper submitted to the second Arab energy conference, which he is expected to discuss before the conference later today. He said that it revolves around the establishment of an Arab groundwork, joint Arab thinking and coordination of energy policies.

The oil minister stressed Iraq's commitment to official OPEC prices of oil. He also criticized the attempts by some OPEC countries to lower prices. He disclosed reports on Iranian oil deals in which oil was sold $4 below the official price with prices ranging between $22 and $28.

In his statement Mr Tayih 'Abd al-Karim reviewed the military situation on the warfronts and declared that Iraq would end the war today if it obtained its full rights regarding its waters and territory. He added: "We will continue the war if the other side refuses to recognize our rights." He stressed that oil production is better than last year even though production has decreased since the Iranian aggression. The oil minister expressed the hope that Iraq would increase its oil production in the future.

CONFERENCE OF DIPLOMATIC MISSION HEADS OPENED

JN061713 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi this morning opened the weeklong sixth annual conference of heads of Iraqi diplomatic missions accredited in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Dr Hammadi briefed the diplomats on the Foreign Ministry's programs and its missions abroad. He also explained the best means that would enable the ministry and its missions abroad to redouble efforts to implement Iraq's foreign policy in the service of the just battle Iraq is waging against the Persian aggressors.

VOAS REPORTS CONTINUED RESISTANCE IN HAMAH

JN052038 Baghdad Voice of Arab Syria in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Our people's masses in the city of Hamah continue to deal blows to Hafiz al-Asad's forces and mercenaries, who uselessly try to storm some of the city's suburbs, particularly the old onces. Despite the regime's claims that it has managed to enter the city, the popular resistance continues to confront the regime's gangs, inflicting losses in life on them. The popular resistance has proceeded from a state of defense to one of organized offense.

100 TANKS REPORTEDLY SENT TO ALEPPO, SYRIA

JN052058 Baghdad Voice of Arab Syria in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Beirut reports say that more than 80 percent of the Hamah citizens are without shelter after the destruction of houses in the city. The reports revealed that 100 bodies were dug out of the debris yesterday. Rescue operations are continuing. Moreover, these reports said that the military airport in the western part of the city was completely destroyed after being shelled by Hafiz al-Asad's gangs.

Today, 100 tanks were sent to Aleppo. This prompted some foreign families to leave the city for fear that the city may have the same destiny as Hamah. Tension prevailed in Aleppo yesterday after a bomb exploded in the Al-Hallaq quarter, killing three and wounding scores of people.

HABIB CONCLUDES DISCUSSIONS, DEPARTS AMMAN

JN051223 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] U.S. envoy Philip Habib left Amman this morning at the end of a 3-day official visit to Jordan during which he met with His Majesty King Husayn and a number of ranking officials. The talks dealt with the current situation in the Middle East region in general and southern Lebanon in particular.

The U.S. envoy was seen off at Amman airport by the Foreign Ministry secretary general, the U.S. ambassador in Amman and U.S. Embassy staff.

AR-RA'Y VIEWS MITTERRAND VISIT AS 'RETRACTION'

JN060947 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 6 Mar 82 pp 1, 23

[Editorial: "Whoever Knocks on the Door Will Hear the Answer"]

[Text] French President Mitterrand concluded his visit to Israel and returned to Paris after a farewell speech at Lod airport in which he said he was pleased with the visit which opened the door for what he termed "the continuation of France's obligations toward Israel."

This was the first time the French president has referred to such obligations, although he avoided any mention of their purport and dimensions and whether they had political dimensions only, or covered other fields as well.

Until the French president mentioned them, we had no idea about the existence of any international obligations toward Israel other than the well-known U.S. obligations, which guarantee for Israel quantitative and qualitative superiority in arms, economic and financial assistance and political support, including the serious veto umbrella.

The strange thing was that Mitterrand referred to "French obligations" toward Israel in the very statement in which he absolved France of any commitment to the cause. He emphasized that France will not play the role of mediator or arbiter. He justified his position by saying that the issue cannot be solved by proxy.

Thus Mitterrand upset the "balance" which he tried so hard to project in his Knesset speech, a balance which can be described at best as one of "words" rather than "deeds."

The visit, which is a deed in itself, is a retraction on the balanced French position, which deprived Israel of any presidential visit under De Gaulle, Pompidou and Giscard d'Estaing because of its aggressions and intransigence on the question.

The French obligations toward Israel referred to by Mitterrand are bound to be deeds also -- hence also the lack of balance and the retraction on the previous French position under the De Gaulle, Pompidou and Giscard d'Estaing administrations, which declined to assume any obligations toward Israel.

The same applies to the statements made by Cheysson, who promised the Israeli press that there would be no European initiative at the expense of the Camp David process. Preventing a European initiative is a deed and a retraction on the previous French position under the Giscard d'Estaing administration, which pledged to present a European initiative to help achieve just and comprehensive peace in the region.

In all honesty, we say that "the balance" or the talk in one language, which President Mitterrand has often stressed, has not materialized. This is a fact which is now known to everyone.

We would like to ask: What would happen if the Arabs had used the same method with President Mitterrand and talked about French interests in the region in sweet words only, but followed different policies? President Mitterrand would permit us to answer this question and say: If this is the method he prefers, then it is alright for the Arabs to try it with him. As a matter of fact, we call on them to do so. Whoever knocks on the door should hear the answer.

AD-DUSTUR Editorial

JN060836 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 6 Mar 82 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "A Second Look at Mitterrand's Visit"]

[Text] Mitterrand's visit to Israel has ended without a joint statement being issued on its results. This leads to the belief that the visit has failed to achieve any progress toward the establishment of peace in the region and that the French president has failed to convince Israeli officials of the French viewpoint. Mitterrand is thus returning to his country with Israeli demands for reconsideration of the French position.

The visit has highlighted the differences between Tel Aviv and Paris on the subject of the Palestinian state, despite the impossible conditions which Mitterrand has set for the Palestinians concerning the establishment of this state.

Menahem Begin has reacted violently to Mitterrand's speech by affirming his rejection of the Palestinian state which, he said, will constitute a threat to Israel's security and existence. Begin also reiterated his disavowal of Palestinian rights, saying that all he can do is grant self-rule under Israeli sovereignty. As a matter of fact, Begin said that France must stop "such talk" if it is really concerned about relations with Israel.

Although Mitterrand called for the establishment of a Palestinian state at the appropriate time and spoke about the right of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza to determine their own destiny, he failed to refer to them as the Palestinian people. He also did not recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of this people. Mitterrand said the PLO can only take part in any talks as the representative of the fighters and only after their charter has been amended. The French president did not call on Israel to withdraw, stop building settlements or abandon the law of the return, which opens the doors of the region to all world Jewry, thereby threatening the security and existence of its peoples.

Despite all that has been said, it is dangerous to believe that the French will continue to be firm on the principle of the establishment of the Palestinian state. President Mitterrand has been under Israeli pressure to convince him of the danger of establishing such a state. They produced maps and voiced arguments showing that the establishment of the Palestinian state means the destruction of Israel. Therefore, nobody can guarantee that the French position on this subject will continue for too long. Time and Zionist pressure are bound to erode French enthusiasm for the Palestinian state.

Mitterrand's visit to Israel has achieved many other results; mainly, the restoration of normal relations between the two countries after 15 years of coolness. It has also reactivated the joint French-Israeli committee and stimulated bilateral cooperation in the cultural, industrial, technological, scientific and other fields.

This constitutes a significant turning point in French-Israeli relations and their reactivation. We wonder: What effect will this have on Arab-French relations?

It is feared that Mitterrand's visit to Israel will encourage other European heads of state to follow suit and will, consequently, break the psychological barrier which has so far prevented European heads of state from visiting Israel. A gradual collapse of the European position is bound to have a negative and serious impact on Arab-European relations.

Once again we say that the visit has not succeeded in promoting peace, but in opening the door for French-Israeli cooperation, which might be followed by European-Israeli cooperation and hence the end of Israel's isolation.

On the whole, the visit has been in Israel's interest. This is one of the results of Arab division and the lack of a unified Arab stand. Will the Arabs realize that Mitterrand would not have made this visit, with all its consequences, had he felt that the Arabs were united and capable of acting in unison?

HUSAYN VIEWS MIDEAST IN U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

JN080746 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has asserted that Iraq is Jordan's strategic depth. Iraq, the king added, has always assisted us whenever we faced difficulties. His majesty said: Today we face a threat which is not aimed against Iraq alone, but against the Arab world at large.

In an interview with the magazine U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, him majesty said that Israel is supporting Iran and is supplying it with the arms, equipment and spare parts. Israel and the Arab radicals had adopted the same attitude toward the hostage crisis [as heard]. This has caused serious polarization in the region. Iraq, however, managed to contain this threat. It is, therefore, incumbent upon us to help and assist Iraq.

Answering a question on whether the opening of the voluntary service to form the Al-Yarmuk Forces in support of Iraq is a symbolic step and whether Jordan would actually participate in the war, his majesty said: The question is not one of Iraq's need of additional manpower, military and material force. Iraq has not lost the war. All that we are doing is giving material aid to a confrontation state defending Arab interests. Had Arab aid been available at the beginning of war, this war would have ended by now. We are not sending Jordanian armed forces. We are sending volunteers. Thousands of Jordanians have responded to the call. Also, volunteers will alternate for the duration of the war. Personally, I will spend the longest possible time in Iraq during the next months. Actually, we want the war to end as soon as possible. Iraq is prepared to negotiate the end the military operations. Iran, however, is rejecting this. We want negotiations not to be confined only to Iraq and Iran but between Iran and all the Gulf states which are being threatened by Iran.

Asked whether the recently formed Gulf Cooperation Council could tackle any threat or whether there was need for foreign assistance, his majesty said: This council has made a good start. Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states are coordinating their efforts. We hope that given time they will be able to organize themselves. However, we realize Jordan's responsibilities in this regard. If there is any need to give any Jordanian military assistance, we are quite and unwaveringly prepared to do so.

Asked if the return of Egypt to the Arab world would beef up Arab detente for which his majesty is working, his majesty said: The situation has developed to the extent that Egypt has not been playing its role toward the Arab community. I am hopeful and I implore God that matters will be rectified before too long a time and that Egypt will again return to its sound position in order to carry out its responsibilities. However, we must eventually establish some kind of collective cooperation among the majority or Arab countries.

On his feelings about Israel's policies in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, his majesty said: The situation in the occupied territories is intolerable. This is severe suppression and a disavowal of the basic humanitarian rights. Israel has annexed Jerusalem and its suburbs. These areas constitute one fifth of the West Bank. Israel is working to expand settlements. It intends to dig a canal between the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea. Israel will use the water as a cooling system for the new nuclear reactors already built in the occupied territories. All this clearly indicate that Israel does not intend to withdraw from the occupied areas nor does it intend to recognize the rights of others in the Middle East.

Answering a question on whether Jordan's relations with the Reagan administration have improved and whether this administration has a harmonious policy toward the Middle East his majesty said: Thus far, the U.S. administration has been reassessing its stands and is studying the existing problems. We know that this administration has a real desire for peace in the region. However, we are unaware of the bases on which it wants to establish this peace. We remind the administration of all the assertions the United States had made in the past. We would like the U.S. administration to reaffirm what it feels constitutes the bases for peace. His majesty said that the United States must stop playing the role of messenger and must practice its role of defining the principles of settlement. Thus far, however, we have not seen any clear U.S. policy.

Asked if Jordan intends to purchase U.S. arms, his majesty said: The joint Jordanian-US. Military Committee meets regularly. It is very likely that we might ask at the next meeting for some specific equipment which we believe we are in need of for the sake of our legitimate self-defense. Despite the importance of air defense for Jordan, due to the Israeli and Zionist pressures in 1975, it was decided that the U.S.-made defensive Hawk missiles be immobile and be deployed in a fixed place. This was unacceptable and we had to tackle it. Our air defenses were lagging behind. I am not here talking about Israel but about the entire region. Some countries have obtained hardware from Europe and the United States. These are more developed than all we have. Some others have obtained the most sophisticated weapons in the Soviet arsenal, although we are the ones facing regional defensive responsibilities and this imbalance must be tackled.

Actually, we want the F-16 aircraft. We might discuss the question of obtaining a mixture of the F-16 and F-5 aircraft. I am not prepared to go through a humiliating process to get these arms. But I am willing to put forward a very strong case, and I hope that Americans at all levels will realize that their national interests dictate that we should be among their friends.

Asked about the possibility of Jordan's participation in the peace process and negotiations, his majesty replied: Which peace process do you mean? I believe that the end of Camp David is in sight with the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, but the civil self-administration proposals would never succeed. Israel is today saying that the occupied territories belong to it whereas the Arabs say that the occupation must end and that the Palestinian people must be given the right to self-determination. I, myself, cannot see how these two stands can be in harmony. On the other hand, the United States says that it will never recognize the PLO unless the latter recognizes Israel's right to exist, although Israel does not recognize that the Palestinians do exist as a people who have rights. However, the best solution, is mutual recognition between the the two sides. If the United States is actually willing to participate in this process, it must hold direct talks with the PLO.

His majesty the king asked: Why does the United States insist on shouldering this big responsibility alone? Why doesn't it want other sides to participate, particularly if these sides are prepared to contribute to establishing a just and lasting peace?

In conclusion, his majesty said that the stands of the Europeans and the Soviets are not different from the U.S. stand and all these stands are based on resolution 242. What is required is an enormous effort, not only by this region, but also by the United States, Europe, the Soviet Union and others, with the aim of applying the required moral pressure to give impetus to the establishment of a lasting peace.

AS-SIYASAH INTERVIEWS INFORMATION MINISTER

JN061237 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah has said that Jordan considers itself as the ally of Iraq and stands by it against any Arab stand that does not support Iraq in its dispute with Iran. In an interview published by the Kuwaiti paper AS-SIYASAH today, Abu 'Awdah stressed: Jordan, which considers itself a party in the fighting, condemns those Arab states which have adopted a non-Arab attitude toward the war.

Abu 'Awdah said: We entered the war as volunteers after it had gone on for 17 months. During that period, we added our voice to all international forums which called for an end to the war. At this very moment while we are sending volunteers on the side of Iraq, we say: The war must end. Iran must heed the voice of reason and wisdom and agree to end the war.

Abu 'Awdah added: Jordan considers its support for Iraq an obligation and an act of loyalty to a country which, over the past 35 years, served as the military depth for Jordan.

The information minister expressed the hope that the war would end soon to allow a peaceful solution satisfactory to both sides: a solution which will safeguard everyone's rights and mark the beginning of good neighborliness between Iran and its Arab neighbors.

MINISTER AL-QASIM ON ARMS SALES, LEBANON

GF061042 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 4 Mar 82 pp 18, 19

[Interview granted to AS-SIYASAH correspondent Tamam al-Barazi by Minister of Foreign Affairs Marwan al-Qasim in Amman -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] We understand that you had a meeting with the Soviet ambassador, which delayed our interview for 30 minutes. Would you explain to us what issues were discussed during this meeting? Was the arms provision to Jordan the topic of discussions?

[Answer] No. On the contrary, he came to give us his views on Poland.

[Question] Did you understand the Soviet stand and has Jordan denounced Soviet interference in Poland?

[Answer] Our stand is based on the UN Charter. We have denounced and still denounce one country's interference in another country. We denounce direct military intervention or occupation. On the sovereignty of countries, we are committed to our stand that is based on the UN charter.

[Question] Did not this commitment annoy the Soviets, particularly since your relations with the Soviet Union have been very good in the recent stage especially after the sale of SAM's to Jordan?

[Answer] Our relations with all parties are good; this is due to the clarity of Jordan's stand whether on the West or the East.

[Question] You did not tell me whether or not you have condemned martial law in Poland.

[Answer] There is an authority taking measures in its own country; this is up to it. There is no foreign intervention and there are no military troops.

[Question] And thus your views are in harmony with the Soviet ambassador's?

[Answer] The issue of identical points of view was not under discussion. The Soviet view is clear.

[Question] You still adhere to the 1978 Baghdad conference resolutions. Do you not think that the Baghdad conference is outdated and that Fahd's plan has replaced all Baghdad decisions?

[Answer] The principles that we adopt do not become outdated; they remain a basis for continued relations among countries. Therefore, when we review the UN Charter, which is 35 years old, we see that time has outrun it. Yet, it remains a basis for distinguishing between right and wrong and for treating such issues. When we view the Baghdad Resolutions, we see that they are principles and not measures. They are principles that are in harmony with international norms. Thus, it is an Arab and international responsibility -- and not an Arab responsibility alone -- to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict because these principles, which were adopted and approved, are based on internationally acknowledged norms, such as the inadmissibility of occupying a land by force.

[Question] But the Baghdad Resolutions contradict Fahd's plan.

[Answer] I do not believe so. I believe the basis and principles of the Baghdad summit were interpreted and construed partly as principles and partly as measures, which is why the Fahd plan has eight points.

[Question] Why did Iraq reject Fahd's plan at the Fes summit if it springs from or is a translation of the Baghdad Summit principles?

[Answer] In fact, as an Arab nation, we would like to discuss the mechanism of the required measures to implement what was agreed upon in Baghdad. This discussion is the solution to preserving a consensus on points which stated that the Baghdad summit principles should be adopted; in other words, that all parties should participate in finding measures to reach what we want. There is no essential difference in ideas. As you know, I believe there were some countries that welcomed -- before Jordan -- the eight points put forward by the fraternal kingdom. Nevertheless, this welcome ended in an opposite stand later. Let us distinguish between our national strategic view and temporary tactics. We do not want tactics to be an alternative to the national strategic view; otherwise, more Arab rights will be lost.

[Question] Do you not believe that putting Fahd's plan to the Fes summit as a basic project means a use of tactics as a basis for national strategy?

[Answer] In fact, Fahd's plan springs from the Baghdad summit principles. Jordan may have 50 views on the clause "withdrawal from all occupied territories" on which others may have thousands of views.

[Question] But the seventh point was not among the Baghdad summit resolutions.

[Answer] The recognition of rights of all countries. There are various interpretations and this depends on how we interpret them. Who needs security now and who needed it in 1948? Arabs, of course.

[Question] This means all countries, including Israel. That is why Syria and Iraq rejected it?

[Answer] There were international resolutions before, which directly involved the recognition of Israel. If we compare these resolutions and the approval of them with similar cases, we find a contradiction in the stand of the countries that approved these resolutions.

[Question] I asked one person, you mean this question and he answered: Perhaps we, for instance, agree to Security Council Resolution 242 or 338, but this is a pan-Arab summit conference and international laws or plans based on international resolutions should not be referred to it because international resolutions are meant for external relations and not for national conferences.

[Answer] This is strange. Just 1 week ago we returned from an extraordinary Arab foreign ministers conference that approved international and Security Council resolutions on the annexation of the Golan.

[Question] But they did not approve international resolutions on Israel's recognition?

[Answer] What is more important is that we should be able to preserve the Arab nation and safeguard its interests and rights. This is the priority Jordan is seeking to achieve on the Arab level.

[Question] Do you believe that the Tunis summit has achieved anything? Will a meeting of foreign ministers and a statement at the end of the meeting return the Golan? What have meetings in the Arab world achieved since the foundation of the Arab League other than the consumption of paper and ink?

[Answer] Continued consultations, deliberations and exchanges of views has its positive side in understanding the Arab nation's problems. I do not want to say that Arab League meetings have achieved a great deal. Jordan has been saying for a long time that we should not rely on declarations, resolutions or formulas, but that there should be understanding and a common ground. I do not think that we should antagonize the whole world when our situation is what it is now. When we call for building our capabilities I do not mean how we should obtain sophisticated weapons, but how we should build the infrastructure of our society that believes in the Arab nation's goals and principles. The climate for achieving this and bringing about a rapport between the governor and the governed should exist.

[Question] Sometime ago NEWSWEEK reported that the visits of Weinberger and Haig to the region had great results, namely the formation of the Saudi-U.S. committee. NEWSWEEK said that this committee is in addition to other committees formed with Jordan, Tunisia, Morocco and Oman. Thus, Saudi Arabia is the fifth Arab country that has signed an agreement on the formation of a U.S.-Arab committee. These committees are an advanced step toward the establishment of special relations with the United States. Some people may construe this as a treaty and say just as you pro-Americans have the right to conclude treaties or pacts with the Soviet Union or anyone else?

[Answer] I think that your understanding of joint committees is mistaken.

[Question] Explain it to us?

[Answer] This was explained by [Saudi Foreign Minister] Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal during the recent conference in Tunis when asked about it. These joint committees are not to draw up a strategy but to implement an arms purchase program for these countries. When most of our arms purchases were British there used to be a Jordanian-British committee. Now there is a Jordanian-U.S. committee that meets to see the reason for the delay in the import of the equipment that we have purchased, and review the level of training received by Jordanian personnel and the problems that arise from such training. But let me put you in the picture: There is a Jordanian-Soviet committee.

[Question] When was this committee formed?

[Answer] When we bought SAM's. This does not mean that there is a military or strategic agreement, but these are necessary requirements.

[Question] Does this mean that your signing the agreement to set up a Jordanian-Soviet committee is the reason for the remark made by Reagan in his latest press conference that Jordan did not ask for arms and the United States did not offer it any arms?

[Ansser] No. I have not seen the text of the press conference. However, our stand is very clear to all the parties. We feel that we are the target of aggression, and therefore Jordan is doing all that it can to obtain all that enables it to defend itself, its people and it dignity. This is a sacred duty in which there can be no prevarication or justification. We ask for arms and will continue to do so if we need to. If we are not given arms by one side we shall turn to other sides until we obtain what will enable us to defend ourselves.

[Question] But does self-defense mean involvement in a war that is taking place far from you?

[Answer] There is no involvement in the war with Iran. Jordan adopts a principled Arab stand toward any Arab country that is the victim of aggression. Just as we contributed in the 1973 war by sending the best two Jordanian brigades to the Golan to resist Israel, likewise we are sending Jordanian volunteers. We are not sending armed forces nor has Iraq asked us to do so. However, we believe it is our pan-Arab [qawmi] duty to contribute as much as we can, bearing in mind that Jordan has the longest border confronting Israel. Our brothers in Iraq and elsewhere understand this -- they understand that Jordan's defense needs exceed the numbers of the Jordanian army. Nevertheless, we saw that it is as our duty that King Husayn should address an appeal opening the door to volunteers as a token of our support and of a return to the pan-Arab concepts that are ultimately the guarantee for preserving the Arab nation's dignity.

[Question] As for purchasing arms from the United States, did Joran discuss purchasing arms with Weinberger or request the revival of the Jordanian-U.S. military committee?

[Answer] There is a joint committee and not a signed agreement. The agreement usually takes place between the Jordanian government and the manufacturer of the equipment, plane or any other material.

[Question] Of course with the approval of the U.S. Government?

[Answer] Yes, of course. The same applies to the Soviets and the Europeans. We have bought from Britain, France and Germany. With all of them we have conditions that must be fulfilled in order to guarantee, in the first place, the condition of these goods to serve Jordanian and supreme nationalist interests.

[Question] Let us move to the issue of the hour, the Syrian-Jordanian file. Of course, Syria accused you of allowing the Muslim Brotherhood to carry out activities. What is your comment?

[Answer] First of all, as you know the Muslim Brotherhood group is registered in the Ministry of Social Affairs as a charitable society. Their numbers are few. As for what the Syrians say about our dispute with them -- that is, the dispute over the Muslim Brotherhood -- we believe any person who wishes to see things clearly must have an open mind in order to ascertain the truth and the reality of the dispute.

[Question] Please explain that?

[Answer] When it was said that the Muslim Brotherhood offered aid or carried out activities in support of groups opposing the Syrian regime, I was the first to propose that the Syrians send whomever they wanted to see for themselves that it is not allowed or permitted for any group in this country to intervene in the internal affairs of another country. We say this truthfully, because this country definitely opposes any intervention in its own internal affairs. As you know, we lost Hazza' al-Majali, our late prime minister, as a result of conspiracies and interventions in our internal affairs.

[Question] Do you mean Syrian conspiracies?

[Answer] Just conspiracies. There were other people who were martyred as a result of another conspiracy known to you.

[Question] From a national point of view, how do you assess the strength and weakness of the Arab states?

[Answer] The strength of any Arab state is strength to us. Jordan's strength is strength to the Arab states whether it is Syria or Iraq. This is a fundamental and unquestionable concept. The argument that Jordan does such things is totally rejected. There also are other reasons for the Syrian-Jordanian dispute and that is the Iraqi-Iranian war. Our stand toward Iraq is the same stand we would adopt toward any Arab state that had suffered aggression.

[Question] But the tension in Syrian-Iraqi relations existed prior to the war?

[Answer] There were those who thought that the Iraqi-Jordanian rapprochement could possibly be a threat. This, too, is a false idea, because Jordan does not ally itself with an Arab front against another Arab front. Jordan's role has always been to pioneer attempts to purify the atmosphere between two groups. The other issue of course -- and which preceded the Iraqi-Iranian war -- was our stand toward the situation in Lebanon. We were the first to support Syria's entry into Lebanon in order to correct things, restore the state's legitimacy and preserve Lebanon as an independent Arab state and as a wellspring of thought and freedom of opinion for the Arab nation. This is what we aspired to. We wanted Lebanon to return to normal and not be left in a state of fragmentation. Later we found that it was necessary to provide an Arab (?field) so that Israel was not given any excuse to benefit from any unstable situation anywhere in the Arab world. Israel is the one that benefits. We believe Israel has ambitions in Arab Lebanon. Israel will continue to find excuses until it can profit from the instability.

[Question] Do you mean to say that the Syrian presence [in Lebanon] benefits Israel?

[Answer] What we hope from any Arab intervention in Lebanon is a restoration of Lebanon's normal situation in order not to allow any pretext for any country to benefit at the expense of this Arab country. We want an Arab solution for the Lebanese situation. Any contribution or ideas that we can offer we shall submit at the right time. We must close the windows and gaps through which Israel can benefit.

[Question] Can we say that one of these gaps is the necessity to withdraw the Syrian Army from Lebanon?

[Answer] Jordan's view was that the entry of the Arab Deterrent Forces necessitated gathering all the Arab and Lebanese groups and uniting them in order to make them understand and adopt a stand. This is a national and not a regional stand that must be adopted because we know what Israel's ambitions are. The Arab Deterrent Forces used to consist of several states and now there is only the Syrian Army. Thus, there has to be a new field in order to contain the Lebanese problem on the Arab level. Practical solutions and Arab and international guarantees must be made in order to preserve Lebanon, or otherwise Lebanon will be the objective.

[Question] Is Syria's withdrawal from Lebanon the beginning of the resolution?

[Answer] This matter depends on discussions, talks and agreements on the level of the committee that has been formed to study the subject. In due time, there will be opinions and an understanding.

[Question] What committee do you mean? There are fifty committees on Lebanon, such as the Followup Committee, the Quadripartite Commitee, the southern Lebanon committee and the committee of the committee...

[Answer] This committee was formed in Tunisia. It consists of the four countries of the quadripartite committee in addition to Algeria, Jordan, Iraq and the general secretariat.

[Question] Does this mean that the solution from the Jordanian viewpoint is the withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon?

[Answer] I haven't said that. You are trying to make me say that. Our view is that Israel wants to benefit from the situation in Lebanon and wants to close all exits. This is the answer.

[Question] What is your stand on the Phalangist demand to withdraw the Syrian Army from Lebanon when the national forces demand its presence?

[Answer] Actually, the quadripartite followup committee, which is the Araba Followup Committee, knows the answer better than I do. We have only recently joined in the eight-member committee on this basis.

[Question] Let's go back to the Jordanian-Syrian dispute again. Do you expect the tension between Syria and Jordan to continue to reach a point similar to that of the seventies when the Syrian Army concentrated its forces on the Jordanian border? Even Kissinger says in his memoirs and in an interview I held with him in 1980 that the United States asked Syria to withdraw and that America went to a nuclear alert then. Do you expect things to reach such a level again?

[Answer] First to correct your information. In 1970 Syrian Armies entered Jordan and in 1980 Syrian forces were concentrated on our border. As for the continuation of this deterioration, we do not seek it and we hope that Syria will not because the most important thing is for all of us to be able to stand up to the real and conspicious threat posed to every part of the Arab nation.

[Question] Let's talk about the prohibited guerrilla action from Jordan. Recently, six commandos infiltrated the West Bank. This created an uproar and has raised questions. Some people even said that Jordan (might) open [the border with Israel] to certain resistance regiments, that Jordan can no longer control its front and that when the Palestinians want to go to their occupied homeland they will go and all security methods will not stop them.

[Answer] Jordan will not give Israel any excuses. When Israel entered the south of Lebanon and did not leave until it established itself there, it was because of provocations. When you view Israel you do not view it as a Jordan or Syria. You do not even view your conflict as an Arab of the south of Lebanon or as Israel. Views, agreements, principles, and strategies have been adopted in order to resist the occupation.

FRANJIYAH ANNOUNCES PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY

NC062220 Paris AFP in English 2120 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Mar (AFP) -- Former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah today declared himself a candidate in the Lebanese presidential elections next May, saying that if elected he would "settle the Lebanese crisis in three months," the Kuwait daily AL-ANBA' reported.

"I would give each party a fixed period to return power to the legal authorities," he said.

Reaffirming his support of Syria, Mr Franjiyah said the Syrian-controlled Arab Deterrent Force stationed in Lebanon "can evacuate Lebanon only by a decision of the Lebanese Government."

PRESIDENT SARKIS RECEIVES PHALANGIST LEADER

NC051328 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Among the people President Ilyas Sarkis met with today was [Phalangist Party leader] Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil. Discussion during the meeting dealt with all aspects of the situation and the contacts being undertaken by the officials behind the scenes to provide the necessary climate and prerequisites for a reconciliation.

After the meeting, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said: We came on behalf of the Phalangist Party's Political Bureau to place the party's political and military potentials at the disposal of the legal authority, which is represented by the president of the republic and the prime minister. I informed President Sarkis, in his capacity as ranking official, of the Political Bureau's decision, which was made during its meetings in the past month and after the situation was studied in depth.

Asked about the Arab Followup Committee and the recent postponement of its meeting in Beirut, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said: The Arab brothers are doing what they can. But we cannot tell them to die for the sake of Lebanon. He added: It is also impermissible to ask the Lebanese to sacrifice their homeland for the sake of the Palestinian issue. I do not think any Arab state will do that. The Lebanese formula [for internal coexistence] is in itself a civilization, which we gave to the world. The greatest loss to the world will be to lose this formula. It will be a loss to the Muslim, the Christian, Lebanon, the Arabs and the world.

In reply to another question, he said: At the beginning of the week I was apprehensive regarding the situation in the south, because the situation in which we exist today is more dangerous than in the past. I also consider that the next 2 months will be more important than the past 7 years. I was afraid of an Israeli occupation and changes in the area. However, what we have heard from French President Francois Mitterrand in Israel and the talks he has held give us some reassurance.

SOVIET CULTURAL OFFICIAL ARRIVES IN BEIRUT

JN061832 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Comrade Yuriy Barabash, first deputy minister of culture in the Soviet committee of solidarity with the Palestinian people, arrived in Beirut last night for a series of official talks here. He was accompanied by PLO information and culture bureau director, Abdallah Hurani, and Comrade (Borsanov) of the Union of Soviet Friendship Societies.

The delegation will be the guests of the Lebanese and Palestinian Soviet Friendship Societies during their stay here.

Comrade Barbash earlier this week held official discussions in Damascus with Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], member of the PLO Executive Committee and head of the Union of Palestinian Friendship Societies. The two sides signed a cooperation protocol for 1982-83.

Comrade Barabash also met with Palestine National Congress President Khalid al-Fahum and members of the PLO Information and Culture Bureau in Damascus.

Soviet Official Meets Al-Wazzan

NC061534 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Today at 0900 Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan received at the government palace in As-Sana'i' Yuriy Barabash, Soviet first deputy culture minister, who is currently visiting Lebanon, accompanied by Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon Aleksandr Soldatov. During the meeting, they reviewed the current situation in Lebanon and the area.

Following the meeting, the Soviet official answered newsmen's questions. Asked about the aim of his visit, the Soviet official said his first goal is to meet with the Lebanese authorities and the members of the Lebanese Friendship Society to learn about and understand the situation in Lebanon so that the Soviet public and officials can be briefed. He said he wants to seek avenues that can be followed to serve the Lebanese cause and the Lebanese people's interests. He added that the Soviet people are following with interest the events taking place in Lebanon, particularly in southern Lebanon, because we are taking into consideration the aggressive Israeli ambitions against Lebanon. He further said: We share the feelings of all patriots in their struggle to stabilize the situation and strengthen the legitimate government in Lebanon, which the Soviet leadership supports.

Asked about Soviet information regarding reports on a possible Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon, the Soviet official said: Sometimes, there are things that are difficult to predict; for instance, what will the weather be tomorrow, sunny or rainy? Regarding these reports, we hope that, taking world public opinion into account, Israel will not launch an aggression.

Asked about a statement he made following his meeting with the president of the republic -- that there will not now be an Israeli aggression against Lebanon -- the Soviet ambassador replied: I would like to clarify what was attributed to me. I said there must not [la yajuz] be an Israeli aggression.

Asked whether the Soviet Union (?monitors) these reports and must know what is going on, the Soviet ambassador said: The Soviet Union always uses all its resources in the world, including the United Nations, to prevent any acts of aggression by imperialism and Zionism. The Soviet Union will exert its utmost efforts in the future regarding this question.

Asked what the Soviet Union would do should an Israeli aggression be launched against southern Lebanon, the Soviet first deputy culture minister answered: We are studying the situation and will pursue our policy in light of the actual situation.

Asked should an Israeli aggression take place against southern Lebanon and included Syria what position would the Soviet Union adopt, the Soviet first deputy culture minister said: You are asking me to predict the future. I would like to say that we will exert our utmost efforts, including political efforts, to achieve unanimous world public opinion to prevent such an aggression.

Asked his view of the situation in Lebanon and the Middle East, the Soviet deputy minister said: The situation is difficult and grave, but this is not new to us. At any rate, I think that the peoples of this area could solve their problems peacefully if it were not for imperialism.

AL-WAZZAN: MITTERRAND VISIT PSYCHOLOGICAL SHOCK

NC051336 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Following the meetings held by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan today, he commented on French President Mitterrand's visit to Israel. In reply to a question, Al-Wazzan said: Although we appreciate all the circumstances, we do not deny that this visit was a psychological shock to us, especially at this time in which Israeli threats have been voiced and the insolence of continued aggression and challenge to all UN principles and the resolutions of UN affliated organizations has been emphasized.

Headded: It is true that we do not expect complete agreement from anyone in policy and positions, but it is our right to expect, especially from a friendly state like France, adherence to the line charted by General de Gaulle in supporting justice and fully backing the just Palestinian cause without hesitation.

CHEDLI KLIBI TO VISIT BEIRUT 'NEXT WEEK'

NC041321 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus said today that Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi will visit Beirut next week for consultations with Lebanese officials on topics related to the Arab Followup Committee.

Minister Butrus today received the personal representative of the Arab League secretary general, Ambassador Mahmud al-Ma'muri, and discussed with him Klibi's forthcoming visit.

Ambassador al-Ma'muri left Beirut for Tunis at midday for consultations with the Arab League secretary general on the current situation in Lebanon and the area and Klibi's visit to Beirut next week.

VOP NOTES ISRAELI, HADDAD MILITARY MOVEMENTS

JN061706 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1615 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Reports from the southern Lebanese border enclave say that the Zionist enemy continues to mass more forces in a number of forward positions. Sa'd Haddad's militias have beefed up their barricades in a number of villages and imposed new taxes on the enclave's inhabitants. Reports further said that the (Al-Jumruk)-Al-Julahiyah area yesterday witnessed hectic movements by Israeli mechanized units and that the forces in the area were reinforced by 12 new tanks. The hospital area in the Marj 'Uyun plain witnessed additional reinforcements beginning 3 days ago. A number of tanks and artillery pieces were added to forces already present. The enemy also brought seven new tanks into the Al-Mashru' area.

On another level, the isolationist militias reinforced their positions in At-Tayyibah and set up two barricades in it. The isolationists also set up a barricade in Al-'Udaysah and imposed a new tax of 10 Lebanese pounds on those inhabitants who returned to the village. They also reinforced the barricade at the Al-Hammah-Al-Khiyam-Marj 'Uyun crossing with new troops and set up new barricades at the (Ar-Raka'iz) and (Kurum al-Khawkh). The Haddad militias blew up a house in Marj 'Uyun for unknown reasons.

ISRAELIS ESTABLISH ELECTRONIC POST IN SOUTH

NC070806 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Reports from the south say Israel is setting up an electronic observation post south of Al-'Arqub to take pictures and record movements via a radar that shows the smallest detail.

In addition, an informed source said that Israel brought equipment and instruments to Nab' al-Wazzani in the outskirts of the village of Al-Mari in preparation for diverting the course of the river to its territories. The Lebanese sides intend to verify this through UN observation posts.

AL-ASAD DELIVERS REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY SPEECH

JN071244 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0846 GMT 7 Mar 82

[President Hafiz al-Asad's 7 March speech at rally held on 19th anniversary of the 8 March revolution -- live]

[Text] Sons of great Damascus, the Damascus of steadfastness and history. Sons of heroic Syria. [applause] The Syria which throughout history, has defeated all injustice, treachery and aggression. These are the people and there is no power greater than that of God and the people. [applause] You are the people, and there is no glory except that of God and the people. [applause] Those who get their strength from you are strong and those who get their strength from anyone other than you are weak, failures and lowly people. [applause]

Brothers and sons, anyone who loves and is loved by you will never be lost. Those who love you and who are loved by you will never be lost. Those who have confidence in you and in whom you have confidence will never be lost because the path of justice is that of the people. [applause] It is the clear and bright path. [applause] The path of right is the path of the people. The path of the broad masses, the path which even if there are many obstacles and difficulties from time to time, in one place or another, will remain the path of justice, the path of success, the path whose end will bring one to the zenith, nay to the zenith of zeniths while the path of the people's enemies will lead to the pit, nay to the bottom of the pit. [applause]

Brothers and sons, by God no one will lose his way or deviate from truth if he follows the people's path and no one will lose the battle if he wages the people's battle.

Brothers and sons; Syrian citizens everywhere: Nothing can make one more proud than this popular unity, this unity of masses which has swept away the decay of history and all residues of backwardness and all outworn concepts because this popular unity embodies the unity of principles, the unity of fate and that of the masses' interests and aspirations. [applause]

Brothers and sons, with this popular unity we waged battles, we waged all battles dictated by our masses' aspirations. With this unity we triumphed in all battles dictated by our masses' aspirations. We offered all sacrifices for this unity dictated by our masses' dignity and ambitions. [applause] We waged the battle of education and culture by means of this popular unity. We waged our economic and socialist battle by means of this unity. We confronted all kind of plotting with this popular unity and we waged the October war by means of this unity. [applause]

Brothers and sons, we waged the October war and that of the Golan with this unity. You, Syrian citizens, the credit goes to you for saving this nation from the complex of humiliation and defeat through which its sons had passed for many decades. It would have been a disaster had this complex continued to spread dangerously in the Arab soul and remained incurable because this would have forced the nation into backwardness toward a black ending. [applause]

Brother citizens; Syrian citizens: You, alongside the heroic Egyptian Army and the heroic Egyptian people [applause] have saved this nation from a catastrophic complex. You saved this nation from having this tragic complex which has engulfed souls. Only after facing this complex could the Arab nation begin to occupy a position never before occupied in our contemporary history. Our nation could not have occupied this position before the October war. [applause]

Brothers and sons, when you fought bravely, sacrificed and offered blood, the Arabs held their heads high and regained many of their usurped rights and their reduced status. [applause, cheers]

Since that time, since the October war, imperialism and Zionism have become wise to your role and to the danger you pose. They have all become wise to the threats you pose to their interests, plans and future projects. Since the October war, they have become wise to your role; thus they began plans to stab you in the heart. They began to plot against you in every way. Since the October war, they have been planning against Syria, its people and role.

They moved around you in one way or another. You confronted them and they failed. They put pressure on you in one way or another, but you also confronted them and they failed. Finally, they resorted to their old tools and antiquated methods. They resorted to the Muslim Brotherhood agents. They resorted to this gang, to these antiquated tools which they manufactured so as to use them at an appropriate time against Arabism and Islam, some 14 centuries after the emergence of Islam.

Brother compatriots; sons, nothing is more dangerous to Islam than distorting its meanings and concepts while you are posing as a Muslim. There is nothing more dangerous to Islam than distorting its meanings while you are posing as a Muslim. This is what the criminal brothers are doing. They are killing in the name of Islam. They are assassinating in the name of Islam. They are butchering children, women and old people in the name of Islam. They are wiping out entire families in the name of Islam. They extend their hand to the foreigner and his agents and to the pro-U.S. puppet regimes on our borders. They extend their hands to them to receive funds and arms to doublecross this homeland and to kill fellow citizens who live with them in the same country, the same town, the same quarter and sometimes even the same house.

This is what the Muslim Brotherhood criminals are doing. They extend their hand to the foreigner directly. They extend their hands to U.S. agents on our borders. They receive funds and arms to kill and weaken this country at a time when you stand alone confronting the most savage enemy and aggression.

This is what the criminal Muslim Brothers are doing. This is what the corrupt Muslim Brothers are doing. They extend their hands to the agents of the U.S. intelligence service to receive money, to receive dollars, dinars and to obtain weapons with which to kill citizens they have known and lived with, have gone to school with in the same class. They also killed faithful citizens who had performed prayers with them in the same mosque. [applause]

Brother citizens, this is what the criminal Muslim Brothers are doing. All these crimes are being committed under the cover of Islam. All these atrocious crimes are being committed under the cover of Islam. The criminals, however, will be brought to account by Islam. The criminals, however, will be brought to account by Islam because in his great book, Almighty God has said: All those who meet their creator as criminals will be sent to Hell where they will neither die nor live. [applause]

Brothers and sons, the fate of the criminal Muslim Brothers will be Hell, where they will neither live nor die. They will not live to enjoy life and they will not die and rest in peace. This is the fate of the criminal Brotherhood. This is the judgment passed by Islam on the criminal Muslim Brotherhood.

Brothers and sons, what have these criminals and mercenaries done in Hamah? They have done something no one can believe. They carried out every act banned by God. They violated all values. They entered houses and killed all the women, children and men in it, to make the house a den from whose windows and doors they fired in all directions, killing all passersby. A group of women and children tried to leave the quarter they were living in to avoid the threat of bullets. They stopped them from leaving and forced them to enter a den. When a woman who worked as a nurse in Hamah, when this woman objected to this, they shot her. [applause]

Sons, these examples of what they did were rejected in the past by our honor, our dignity and morals, as they are now and will continue to be in the future. Many have died from rape, and you realize we cannot go into detail on this subject. Mosques and houses of God were transformed into warehouses for ammunition and into barricades from which they shot and killed citizens.

What else did they not commit? They desecrated mosques by stockpiling ammunition in them and killed innocent citizens from them. They broke into and plundered public stores. They broke into private and government stores and plundered them. What else have these criminals not done? They have done everything.

They killed, assassinated, destroyed, burgled, whether for murder or for spreading mischief in the land. It would be as if he slew the whole people; and if anyone saved a life, it would be as if he saved the life of the whole people. [Koranic verse]

Brother compatriots; brothers and sons: The Koran says that if anyone slays a person, it is as if he slays a whole people. What do we say of ones who have slain hundreds of people and tried to wipe out an entire quarter, an entire town and an entire homeland? They are apostates. We are the ones who defend Islam, religion and the homeland. [applause, cheers]

Sons, brother compatriots, the masses in every town and village in this country will defend this homeland and Islam as revealed, the Islam of Muhammad, may the peace and blessings of God be upon him. Sons, we are the ones who will defend Islam as revealed; the Islam of the prophet's followers; the Islam of 'Umar and 'Ali, the Islam of justice; the Islam of equality; the Islam of love; the Islam of patriotism, the Islam of progress; the Islam of revolution; the Islam of patriotism; the Islam of progress; the Islam of revolution; the Islam of struggle against reaction and feudalism. [applause]

Sons, we will never permit them to distort our Islam. We will never permit them to distort our values. We will never permit them to distort our legacy.

Islam is the religion of stubborn struggle against all forms of imperialism. Islam is a relentless struggle against reaction and imperialism. It is firm support for and stubborn struggle on the side of all oppressed and toiling peoples in our nation and everywhere on this earth.

Sons, this is our Islam; this is the Islam of Muhammad, God bless him and grant him salvation. [applause] It is we who will raise the banner of Islam. It is we who will defend the banner of Islam. We will not allow hired agents to desecrate this banner. [applause]

My beloved sons: However, how did the criminals find the Ba'thists and honorable people in Hamah? How did the criminals find the position of the Ba'thists and honorable citizens in Hamah? They found they were the exact opposite of what they had imagined. They found the Ba'thists and honorable citizens solid and inflexible. They found them armed with explosive determination and stubborness to kill and combat them until the end. This is what the Ba'thists were like in Hamah. [applause]

Brother citizens: The Ba'thists in Hamah disappointed the criminal traitors. The honorable citizens of the sons of Hamah disappointed the criminal traitors. They confronted them violently from the first moment. They continued the battle against these criminals until they uprooted them and triumphed. It was a victory for God, religion and for the nation. [applause]

Brothers and sons: Death to the criminal Muslim Brotherhood; death to the hired Muslim Brotherhood who tried to play havoc with this homeland. Death to the hired Muslim brothers who were hired by the U.S. intelligence, reaction and Zionism. [applause] Death to the corrupt Muslim brothers. [applause]

Sons: Death a thousand times to the hired Muslim Brothers, who linked themselves with the enemies of the homeland and who were employed by the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary enemies. Death a thousand times to the Muslim Brothers, the criminal Brothers, the corrupt Brothers. Long live this nation and long live these masses. [applause]

Brothers and sons, death to our enemies, death to God's enemies, death to the people's enemies, death to the corrupt Muslim Brothers who have sold their souls for dollars and dinars and long live this people. [applause]

Sons, Hamah does not represent the Muslim Brotherhood gang in the manner this gang tried to depict it. The citizens of Hamah opposed this gang from the very beginning. Citizens in Hamah rejected this gang and its practices from the first moment. They confronted it despite the atmosphere of terror the gang imposed in the first hours. Even the citizen who was not able to confront this gang and its acts directly tried, through all means, to provide some cooperation to the party and to the security forces.

Even if not able to confront them, at least he tried to inform the competent party and security authorities about the dens and acts of the Muslim Brotherhood. Citizens of Hamah offered all the assistance they could. The citizens of Haman do not represent the gang. Hamah is represented by the masses you have seen on television. [applause]

Sons, the citizens of Hamah are these masses you saw on television. These are the masses which were shouting as loudly as they could: We are with the party. We are with the revolution. They did so based on the premise that the party is their party and the revolution their revolution. Greetings to these masses. [applause] Greetings to these masses. We pledge that we shall proceed together. We shall struggle together relentlessly without pause or hesitation until we wipe out all the remnants of colonialism, imperialism and reactionaries in this homeland. [applause]

Brothers and sons, Syrian citizens everywhere: [applause] Greetings to our comrade Ba'thist brothers in Hamah and to our comrade Ba'thist sisters in Hamah. [applause] Greetings to our comrade Ba'thists in Hamah and greetings to our comrade Ba'thist sisters in Hamah and may God's peace be upon the martyrs of the Ba'th in Hamah, who will always remain bright lights on the road illuminating our path to our goals of unity, freedom and socialism. [applause]

Sons of hero Damascus; Damascus of steadfastness and history; Damascus of steadfastness and liberation; Syrian citizens everywhere: We must remember when the criminal Muslim brothers made their move in Hamah. We must always remember when the traitors of the criminal Muslim Brotherhood made their move in Hamah. They moved just as Israel annexed our land in Golan and when we were exerting efforts, struggling with all means and working with the countries of the world to gain their support against this annexation decision and so this world would support us in a resolution at the UN General Assembly. [applause]

We must always remember and recall when the criminal Muslim Brotherhood carried out criminal acts in Hamah. They did so after Israel decided to annex the Golan Heights and a time when the UN General Assembly was about to adopt a resolution. They did so when we needed every minute to devote to confronting this decision. At this particular time, the criminal gang carried out its actions by killing citizens to confuse and preoccupy the state. At this time, this gang moved. It is a serious and important matter that should not be forgotten. However, through your faith, popular unity and your love for this homeland, you triumphed in both battles. [applause] You triumphed at the United Nations despite U.S. resistance. [applause] You triumphed over the traitors, the criminal brothers, despite the support given to them by the United States and the agent regimes on our borders. You triumphed despite all this support. [applause]

Brothers and sons, you triumphed with this popular unity, with this vigilance entertained by our hero citizens, with this cohesion and with this high spirit and this limitless determination to resist every criminal and every traitor and agent of the United States and its reactionary agents in this region. [applause] You triumphed with this popular and national unity in all the battles you have waged before and after the October war and up to now. With this popular unity, with this national unity ar with this vigilance and courage you will triumph in all future battles, both those we are going to wage or those that will be dictated to us by the imperialists and Zionists. [applause]

Brothers and sons; our kinfolk in the occupied Golan are waging the battle of honor these days unarmed except for their love of this people and their affiliation to this homeland. [applause]

Sons and brothers, compare your struggler sons and those agents. Compare those strugglers and what they do and the agents and what they do and commit. [applause] Sons, Israel thinks it can do anything with U.S. support. But it is mistaken in this belief. Israel has occupied Arab territories and dispersed a part of our Arab people in Palestine, Egypt and Syria. However, Israel has not succeeded in securing its existence. Israel has not succeeded in securing its existence because its existence depends on our will, we the Arabs. [applause] Sons, Israel is the only one in the world that has not succeeded in stabilizing as an established entity and as a continuous reality stemming from the past and continuing into the future.

Why? Because this depends on your wish, the wish of the Arab masses. [applause]

Sons, will Israel gain its existence or not? This depends on whether we want it to or not. Israel has occupied some of our territory and displaced some of our people. However, it did not manage and will never manage to occupy or defeat our will. [applause] What Israel is practicing against our kinfolk in Golan by suppression, siege, imprisonment and starvation will not benefit it at all because the matter is not one of an imposed identity or imposed decision, but is one of a national identity and pan-Arab affiliation. Therefore, to practice all methods of suppression against our kinfolk and sons in the occupied Golan will not benefit Israel at all. [applause]

Israel's decision to annex the Golan is a historical farce to be added to previous farces. They are aware of this and if not then they should realize that this nation's will -- a will they did not and will not succeed in occupying or defeating -- means that we will restore every Arab right, starting off with the Golan soil, every particle of soil on our occupied Arab Golan. The Israelis should realize that. Israel, the United States, agent and defeatist reactionaries and everyone should realize that those who determine the course of history are not the defeatists, the enemies of peoples or those afraid of losing their seats. The ones who determine the course of history are the people -- the owners of rights, principles and destiny. [applause]

Brothers and sons, those who determine the course of history are not weak-hearted, capitulationist or defeatist.

Those who determine the course of history are you -- the masses -- whether this takes a long or short time. This has been proved by history itself. This has been proved in the past and will be proved in the future. [applause]

Sons, [applause] our sons and kinfolk in the Golan, our kinfolk in the Golan are adding more brilliant pages and are recording brilliance to the history of nationalism and martyrdom. This is what your brothers and sons in the Golan are doing. Therefore, greetings to you, our sons in the Golan. [applause] Greetings to you, our kinfolk in the Golan. [applause] Greetings to your women, children and to your men. Greetings to you in Mas'adah, in Majdal Shams and in every city and village in the great Golan. [applause]

Our kinfolks in the Golan, let your hands be united with those of your brothers, the Arabs of Palestine, those in the West Bank and the [Gaza] Strip. [applause] Let your hands be united, our sons in the Golan, with those of your brothers, the Arabs of Palestine, because the enemy is a common enemy, because the course is the same, because the objective is a common objective and because the history is a common history. [applause] Greetings to you, our sons in the Golan. Greetings to your brothers, the Arabs of Palestine. You must realize that Syria is for Palestine just as Palestine is for Syria. [applause]

Sons, Syrian citizens, where are the weapons we found in Hamah from? Who sent the weapons we confiscated in Hamah? Who had the kindness to send these weapons to us in such large quantities? Who is the philanthropist of this modern age? We know that all agents of the United States are generous when it comes to offering weapons for killing the largest number of Syrian citizens. [applause]

Sons, our experience has shown that we can be certain that the concern of the United States is to kill us en masse whenever possible. We also do not doubt that the concern of the agents of the United States from overseas and on our borders is to kill our citizens, particularly en masse.

The one who has the biggest share this time is a very generous person. It is the ruler of fraternal Iraq. It is the ruler of fraternal Iraq who honored us with this big quantity of various weapons. [applause] Sons, it is obvious that the hangman of Iraq was not content with how many Iraqis he has killed and is still killing. He was not content to see us in Syria far from the acts of killing and assassination. It is obvious that the hangman of Iraq was not content to only kill tens of thousands of the fraternal Iraqi people. He came to Syria to carry out further of his favorite hobbies -- killing, assassination and sabotage.

This man has been sending arms for the criminals in Syria ever since he took power. We have for a long time been capturing quantities of arms reaching us from fraternal Iraq at the instructions of this despotic ruler.

Just before the Hamah incidents, we seized a boobytrapped car that came from Baghdad with orders from the Iraqi ruler that it should be blown up in Damascus. The car is in the hands of the competent organs. We did not announce that. We seized large quantities of arms in the past. We also did not announce that. During the Hamah incidents, he sent quantities of explosives with the aim of using them in homs. These are confiscated and the criminals who brought them were killed. Also, during the Hamah incidents, they brought boobytrapped cars to be detonated in Homs. When these cars were intercepted by a security patrol, the occupants fled toward the desert. They blew up two cars in some villages on their way. These are examples showing how concerned this regime of the ruler and hangman of Iraq is over security and stability in Syria. These are only examples showing the eagerness of this hangman for killing citizens in this country. We did not announce this before. This is the first time that we have mentioned it because we did not want to exacerbate matters. Nobody should ever think that we would resort to the same method. Never. We will never retaliate because we will not kill our people in Iraq. They suffer enough from the fire used by the mangman of Iraq. The ruler of Iraq knows that we can send dozens of boobytrapped cars to be blown up in the streets of Iraq. But this is what we will never resort to because the Iraqi people is ours and not that of the hangman. [applause] Sons, the Iraqi people are ours. They are suffering from an ordeal.

We will not reply with such methods because we and the Iraqi people are in one position and for one cause. Sooner or later, we will stand side by side, shoulder to shoulder against that regime and that hangman and against every enemy of the Iraqi people, the Syrian people and the Arab nation. [applause]

Sons, the Iraqi regime's role has reached a grave stage, a grave point, a grave position. The Iraqi regime was not satisfied with pulling Iraq out of the arena of struggle against Israel. It was not satisfied with this and its role did not stop at this, but exceeded that to fragmenting forces in this region, particularly the forces which can be an effective front in confronting Zionism and Zionist aggression. The role of this regime was clear since the first days of its assumption of power. The first action of this regime was to pull out of the projected unity about to be established between Syria and Iraq. It pulled out of the unity, whose background and constitution were studied and whose constitutional articles were approved during several meetings we held in Baghdad and Damascus. We approved this constitution's articles in agreement with President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr. This ruler came to cast away this constitution and agreement and to pull out of the unity process beginning in its early days, exactly 4 days after his assumption of power.

This was the first grave sign by the new Iraqi ruler. Since then, he has escalated his plotting quickly and with cowardly methods against us in this country at a time when it is clear to every blind person that this country's people are the only solid and steadfast rock defending the Arab nation against Israeli aggression and expansion. [applause]

Sons, what guilt was committed by those men, women and children who were killed in the Al-Azbakiyah suburb? Who can imagine that an Arab might instigate, prepare, plan and implement such a massacre in Damascus streets in which every Arab in the Arab east and west takes pride? [applause] Who can imagine that any one of these people's sons who lived in this Arab homeland might plan and implement such an act to terrorize our kinfolk and sons in the city of Damascus? Who imagined that such a thing might happen? Who imagined that such a vile and cowardly act could be planned by an Arab living in or affiliated with any Arab country? Who imagined that an Arab might plan what has happened in Hamah? Who imagined that? Does any one of you not know or simply realize that you can take dozens of boobytrapped cars to any Arab country every day? However, we will not do so. You will not do so at all. [applause]

The Iraqi regime wants us to send boobytrapped cars to Baghdad and to every Iraqi city. The regime wants us to kill our people in Iraq in order to quench its thirst for blood regardless of when or where this blood is shed. The regime wants to quench its thirst and find something to tell the Iraqi people. The regime also wants to harm you and your line.

At the same time my sons, I do not want to speak longer on the details of his plots against Syria because I know that this will take a long time. We may return to this talk some other time. However, at the same time he plotted against Syria he invaded Iran. When? When the shah collapsed in Iran, when the emperor in Iran collapsed, when Iran declared that it was an Islamic revolution, when it severed relations with Israel and tore up the agreements used to make Iran a major and advanced base in this region, when Islamic revolutionary Iran raised the slogan of brotherhood with the Arabs, when Iran raised the slogan of struggle against U.S. imperialism, when Iran did all this and said: I am with you, Arabs, in your war against your enemy, because your cause is mine. At that time, the hangman of Iraq invaded Iran.

Brother citizens, the shah of Iran was a friend and neighbor of the Iraqi ruler himself. With this shah, this ruler signed the Algiers agreement and considered it at that time a victory for Iraq. After this agreement, criticism of the shah was forbidden in Iraq and the shah was considered a dear neighbor and an intimate friend. When the Islamic revolution was successfully established in Iran and when Iran stood firmly at our side, the Iraqi ruler abrogated the Algiers agreement and said that this agreement is unjust for Iraq. When the revolution in Iran said: We are with you, Arabs, the Iraqi ruler invaded it. He now demands that all the Arabs go and fight with him against the Iranians in their own country as a punishment for them because of their support for us in our battle against Zionism and because they say that the cause of Jerusalem is their own cause. That is what the Iraqi ruler has done.

Brother citizens, the Iraqi ruler invaded Iran and killed tens of thousands of our sons and people in fraternal Iraq. Now he asks for help. He appeals to the Arabs to send volunteers for him. He forgot that those who volunteer do so for a just cause. They do so when their land is exposed to invasion, when their small or great homeland is exposed to aggression and when there is an enemy. Where is this enemy? They say in Iran: We are with you, Arabs. How can you, ruler of Iraq, tell us they are the enemies of the Arabs? They say: Open the way for us, we want to go everywhere on your frontline [with Israel]. And you say: Come, let us fight them.

Sons, when the shah was in power, why did the ruler of Iraq not tell us: Come fight with Iraq, Arabs, against the shah. Have you ever heard him say this? Never. Not a single Arab has heard him make such a call. This is not the only thing. I recall an incident. When we came out of the Tishrin war and the Golan war in 1974, as you well know we disagreed with the Iraqi regime. I summoned the Iraqi ambassador in Damascus and told him: Despite our difficult circumstances in Syria, despite our presence a few kilmeters away, despite the presence of our regimes a few kilometers from the enemy, despite the location of our capital only a few kilometers from the enemy, despite all this we have a calm situation and I have learned that there is tension between you and Iran. We can participate with you in an eventual battle and I can send you large numbers, particularly pilots. Inform your brothers in Iraq and give me an answer. I sent them this message but they did not ask us to send them anyone. They did not ask us to send anyone to fight the shah because they did not want to fight the shah. As for now, they want to fight the Iranians who have said: I am with you, Arabs, brothers under the canopy of Islam. We and you, Arabs, must participate in the battle to liberate Jerusalem from the premise of the duty that is imposed on us by Islam. [applause]

Sons, the ruler of Iraq does not understand that the Arab citizen has his own beliefs and dignity. He is asking us to go to Iran to fight the revolution in reward for what it did and for having raised slogans in support of the Arab nation.

The Iraqi ruler must know that Arab citizens understand this battle very well. The Arabs know that this is not a battle of Iraq or the Arabs, but the battle of the United States and Zionism. [applause] Sons, the Arab citizens are ready to offer themselves in sacrifice when needed, but what need is there? Is an eventual threat posed to any one Arab country? They, however, will not deceive us. They will not be able to blind us. They will not succeed in dragging us into a battle which is that of the United States and Zionism. The ruler of Iraq must understand that those who go to such a battle are agent mercenaries who have sold their big and small homelands. It is such mercenaries who go as volunteers to fight the Iranians who have supported us and want to fight alongside us.

Ruler of Iraq, you will not find any Arab supporting you except mercenaries and agents of foreign intelligence. You will not find anyone supporting you except for mercenaries and agents of foreign intelligence, especially U.S. and Zionist intelligence, because Arab citizens stand by their nation and national cause. [applause]

Brother and sons, we wish that the Iraqi ruler knew that all of us in the Arab street are the owners of a cause which is the nation's cause, and that we are neither mercenaries nor warmongers fighting on the behalf of others, particularly on behalf of the imperialist forces and their agents in the region. We wish he knew that. If he knows that, we hope he will repent and abstain from what he is saying and doing. Hence, sons, I address our good people in fraternal Iraq and our army in fraternal Iraq, saying: Brothers of the Iraqi people, brothers in the brave Iraqi Army, we are with you. We and you are one people and one army. But this regime is against you and us. This regime is preventing us from dealing and cooperating with you through thick and thin. [applause] Sons, in your name, in the name of these masses, I say to the people and Army of Iraq: Had Iraq been invaded, had Iran or anyone else invaded Iraq, we would have been on your side mingling our blood with your blood and our efforts with your efforts. [appaluse]

In your name and in front of you I tell the Iraqi people and the heroic Iraqi Army that had it been Iran's shah whom you were fighting, you would have also found us at your side. [applause] Had it been a fight against Iran's shah, who had ambitions against Arab lands, who was hostile to the Arab awakening and who was Israel's friend, we would have been on your side unhesitatingly. [applause] However, brothers in Iraq, brothers in the Iraqi Army, you are fighting us -- a revolution which says I am for you and with you. The Iraqi ruler has led you to this fire in order to fight a friendly country which has succeeded in a revolution that we considered the largest accomplishment and gain to us and you, as well as to all the Arab masses. [applause]

Brothers in Iraq, brothers in the heroic Iraqi Army, this ruler has led you to this furnace and this war. Why? What is the result? Why the killing of tens of thousands? Where is the danger posed to Iraq? Has Iran said that it wants Iraq's territory? Has Iran invaded Iraq? Is there a single particle of Iraqi soil threatened? Not at all. Why then this war? Why do our sons die? Why did he not fight Iran until after it said: I am with you? Why did he not fight Iran except after a popular revolution that stood on our side? Why did he not fight Iran when it was a forward U.S. base? Why did he not fight Iran when it was a friend and ally of Israel?

Why do we fight Iran now? This is not your wish, brothers in Iraq. We know this only too well. We know this war is not yours and that the Iraqi ruler has imposed it on you. However, does this mean that the road before us is closed? Does this mean we should remain in this burning oven, hired and forced to implement the schemes of this ruler on behalf of U.S. imperialism and Israel? We must find a way out. Brothers in Iraq, we must find the way out. You must remember what this ruler did first. He destroyed the unity project between Syria and Iraq, this project of unity for which we had laid a basis. He then invaded Iran and the Iranian Islamic revolution, which stands at the side of the Arabs, and at the same time declared a different form of war against Syria, This war took the form of a media campaign and arms, bombs and explosives sent to Syria. Just before his invasion of Iran, he performed with Syria a deed unprecedented in this age.

He sent his intelligence men to the Syrian Embassy, arrested those working at the embassy, tied them up and brought in explosives and placed them on the embassy tables. They then said: Here is Syria putting arms and explosives in its embassies. He knows more than anybody else that it is an elementary principle in security that if a state wants to send arms and explosives to another state, it would not place these weapons in its own embassy. It would put them in any other place but not in the embassy. He did this before this invasion of Iran. He expelled Syrian personnel from the embassy, closed the embassy and severed relations with Syria. Remenber, Brother Iraqis, he severed relations between the closest brothers in Syria and Iraq and then invaded revolutionary Iran. We know what he did in the past and what he does now inside Iraq. For the Iraqi who refuses to volunteer they write on his identity card things such as spy, traitor, etc. They write on his house -- traitor, coward and spy. I do not think any Iraqi refused to volunteer out of cowardice. There are no cowards among our people in Iraq. They refuse to volunteer because it is not their war. This war is useless. Neither Iraq nor the Arabs have any interest in this war.

Brothers in Iraq, we know that whoever escapes the flames of war will not escape the flames of the regime and whoever escapes the flames of the regime will not escape the flames of the war. Both fires are set by the Iraqi ruler. We know that this regime is fond of the fighting between Iraq on the one hand and its brothers and neighbors on the other. This regime delights in killing citizens, especially in Syria and Iraq. In Iraq, the regime kills by war and by other means and in Syria it sends things, some of which we have referred to.

Brothers in Iraq, we are with you and we want to be with you everywhere. I tell you we must soon meet in order that we, in Syria, Iraq, the Arab nation and Iran, might have close cooperation and become a firm front against the real enemy at the real front.

Brothers of the Iraqi people, brothers in the brave Iraqi Army, we are with you. We are waiting for our meeting. We hope it will not be too long before we meet together against all our enemies -- hangmen, agents, imperialists, reactionaires and Zionists. Brothers and sons, with your faith, unity, mutual love and courage, we triumphed in past battles. With this love, whose banner we must raise high everywhere in this country, we will also triumph in all our future battles. Today, we bid farewell to the 19th anniversary of the 8 March revolution so that we might meet again at the 20th anniversary, when we will have achieved great strides toward success on the path of the people and nation. Brothers, I have spoken too long and I have the excuse that you are my family and loves ones. Peace be upon you.

VOL VIEWS ARMY MUTINY, ALEPPO SITUATION

NC051415 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] According to information available to the Voice of Lebanon, after the opening of the main road to Hamah, 100 bodies were picked up from under the rubble yesterday, and rescue operations in demolished buildings are continuing.

Information also says that more than 80 percent of Hamah's residents are homeless and that the military airbase west of the city has been completely destroyed as a result of air attacks following a mutiny in the Syrian Army, with the mutineers joining the Muslim Brotherhood.

Yesterday morning the city of Aleppo witnessed extreme tension following a bomb explosion at the Al-Halluq station which killed three people and wounded scores of others.

In view of this situation, some foreign families left Aleppo in fear of being surrounded by tanks, following reports that 100 tanks were on their way to the city.

The information available to the Voice of Lebanon also says that special units have threatened the areas of Al-Kallasah, Bab an-Nayrab and Al-Halluq with a strike, similar to that dealt to Hamah, if Muslim Brotherhood members are not surrendered to the authorities.

ATH-THAWRAH ATTACKS MITTERRAND'S VISIT

JN060953 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0910 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Damascus, 6 Mar (SANA) -- ATH-THAWRAH says: Not content with reiterating his friendship for Israel by being the first French president to visit the Zionist entity since 1948, President Mitterrand went beyond this when he chose the Zionist Knesset to announce support for Camp David and for the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty while completely ignored the Palestinian Arab people's rights.

The paper explains that this change in France's stand from the policy that General de Gaulle laid down constitutes a basic trend in the French Socialist Party's policy which, it seems, has chosen to become completely biased toward Israel, to become subservient to the United States and to put an end to any possibility of France playing an independent role or adopting an independent policy.

The paper wonders: Otherwise, how can one explain Mitterrand's retraction of the Venice declaration, which constitutes the minimum stand that Europe has adopted on the situation in the Middle East?

The paper refers to the announcement during Mitterrand's visit that the French president issued orders to members of his government to avoid including any provisions in French trade agreements that would be in harmony with the Arab boycott of firms that deal with Israel.

The paper deduces that President Mitterrand has chosen the occasion of his visit to the Zionist entity to declare war on the Arab boycott of Israel, thus placing himself on the same road that led Guy Mollet to participate in the tripartite aggression against the Arab nation in 1956.

The paper concludes that President Mitterrand has confirmed that he and his Socialist Party are completely biased toward Israel and that in his talks with Begin he has brought to fruition a joint French-Israeli policy against Arab rights. This requires an urgent Arab move to reply to this hostile French stand.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES LEBANON'S JUNBLATT, IBRAHIM

JN041339 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1248 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Damascus, 4 Mar (SANA) -- President Hafiz al-Asad received here today Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party and chairman of the Central Political Council of the Lebanese National Movement and Muhsin Ibrahim, secretary general of the council. The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

The discussion during this meeting dealt with the political and security situation in Lebanon, the general circumstances surrounding Lebanon and the necessity to continue efforts to achieve national accord in Lebanon. The discussion also dealt with the general situation in the Arab region.

DAMASCUS TV CITES FATAH OFFICIAL ON ADF ROLE

JN042044 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Salim az-Za'nun, Fatah movement representative in Kuwait and the Arab Gulf, has praised the pan-Arab role played by the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] in Lebanon.

He said the continued presence of the ADF is a necessary and pressing matter particularly when the Zionist enemy is threatening to launch an agression against southern Lebanon. During a meeting yesterday with the Kuwaiti foreign minister, Az-Za'nun said the withdrawal of the ADF is a U.S.-Israeli demand aimed at sapping national forces and liquidating Palestinian resistance.

INDUSTRIAL, ECONOMIC TIES WITH FRANCE SOUGHT

TA050951 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Israel has raised with France the possibility of cooperation on a number of economically oriented projects. The chief scientist of the Industry and Commerce Ministry, Arye Lavi, said Israel asked France to cooperate in a large-scale project involving industrial research and development. A joint fund for that purpose will be discussed in Israel next month at a meeting of the joint Israel-France economic committee. The governor of the Bank of Israel, Moshe Mandelbaum, met today with the French finance minister. The governor asked the French official to agree to setting up a joint fund for projects in developing countries.

In talks between finance minister and his French counterpart, Aridor raised the issue of encouraging investment and an increase in trade between the two countries. Aridor also asked for French support at the EEC. Israel wants the EEC to hold consultations with her before signing an agreement on the entry of Spain into the Common Market. Jerusalem radio's reporter in Paris says the French Foreign Ministry is angry at the publicity given in Israel, the details of possible economic programs. Our reporter was told that the publicity is not helping President Mitterrand's stand in the world and that the news will help Arab countries in their criticism of Mitterrand's visit.

FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT FRANCE 'IN 2 MONTHS'

TA051210 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will make an official visit to France in 2 months. Our correspondent, Freddy Eytan, reports that Shamir accepted an invitation extended this morning by his counterpart, Claude Cheysson, when they met in Jerusalem. A joint Israeli-French committee, at the director general level, will convene at the end of next month in Paris to discuss the various aspects of the bilateral relations.

FRENCH PRESIDENT TOURS 'AKKO, HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

TA051029 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] President Mitterrand and members of his entourage ended their tour of Kibbutz Lohame Hageta'ot and the Holocaust museum there about an hour ago. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav says that the guest showed great interest in the exhibits in the museum. Speaking briefly in the kibbutz dining hall, the French president said he and his wife chose to wind up their visit to Israel by touring some symbolic sites of great significance to Israel. Earlier, the visiting president toured 'Akko and among other places also saw Ulame Ha'abirim [underground grotto] and the 'Akko jail where Jewish prisoners sentenced to execution were imprisoned during the period of the British Mandate. President Mitterrand is now leaving for a reception the French Embassy in Tel Aviv is holding in his honor.

SECURITY TIES NOT DISCUSSED WITH MITTERRAND

TA051219 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 5 Mar 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by Dalya Shehori]

[Excerpt] Although the Israelis had intended, in the talks with French President Mitterrand, to discuss the possibility of strengthening cooperation in the fields of security and procurement of military equipment, the issue was not raised, as far as is known.

It appears that the prime minister decided not to raise the issue after French reactions to early publications on this matter said that President Mitterrand had not come to Israel in order to discuss concrete matters and that hs was not bringing with him any expert on security affairs. As far as is known, Begin also did not raise the possibility that France would sell Israel a nuclear reactor for electricity supplies.

PRESIDENT NAVON BIDS MITTERRAND FAREWELL

TA051350 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1324 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Speech delivered by President Yitzhaq Navon at Ben-Gurion Airport at the end of French President Mitterrand's visit to Israel -- live]

[Text] Dear Mr and Mrs Mitterrand, it is hard to think that it was only the day before yesterday that you arrived here. In the past two busy days you have won our hearts and become dear guests in every home in Israel. The hope I expressed upon your arrival, that the clouds which once darkened our skies would disperse, is turning into a reality.

Mr President, your deep understanding of the history of our people since its beginning and up till now has been clearly and nicely expressed in all your speeches and acts. We greatly appreciated your visits to Yad Vashem, the 'Akko prison and the Lohame Hageta'ot Kibbutz which are the symbols of our era. We, on our part, tried to express our deep appreciation to your great people and your noble personality. We talked much but have not yet said everything. The talks you held here were friendly and useful.

This morning I talked with Prime Minister Menahem Begin who, to our regreat and at the instruction of his physician, could not be present with us here. He asked me to convey to you his best wishes and feelings of appreciation.

We are bidding you farewell with warm gratitude and with great hope. You provide an example to the opinion which I too hold that it is not the history which makes the man but rather the man who makes history. Your very visit here is writing history. [Navon's remarks are then translated into French]

I wish that the following psalms verse will come true for you: He is like a tree, planted by streams of water, that yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. [Navon then translates this into French --]

FRANCE'S PRESIDENT MAKES STATEMENT, DEPARTS

TA051414 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1329 GMT 5 Mar 82

[French President Francois Mitterrand's speech in French at Ben-Gurion Airport upon departure from Israel -- live, processed from Hebrew translation]

[Text] Mr President, ladies and gentlemen, just a few words:

Permit me to thank the Israeli authorities and the Israeli people for the reception accorded to me, the president of the French Republic. I found here warmth and strength, and I hope confidence as well. My best wishes to all of you, you who represent Israel and its institutions, and through you, convey my gratitude and my farewell words to the Israeli citizens.

President and Mrs Navon dedicated 2 and 1/2 days to me and I believe that this time will benefit both you and me. Please tell the prime minister that I am sorry that he was taken ill and that he could not come here. However, the main thing is for him to recover from his illness and be healthy. All the rest will be achieved by persisting in the mutual commitments we have undertaken. Let us delve into the issues for which we are responsible.

Mr Knesset Speaker, Knesset Members, Cabinet members and members of the opposition: I will also thank you for the reception you accorded me. Finally, words are not but words and less than deeds. I hope that in this meeting we made several breakthroughs and I hope that they are conducive to strengthening relations between our two nations, France and Israel. Again, thank you. [applause]

SHAMIR STRESSES SIGNIFICANCE OF MITTERRAND VISIT

TA061110 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir interviewed by Razi Barqay on the 5 March "Weekly Newsreel" -- recorded]

[Text] [Barqay] A great deal of sympathy and very little agreement is the way the visit of French President Mitterrand to Israel may be summed up. The visit was mainly a psychological breakthrough underscored by political differences on the issue the French regard as the heart of the conflict: the Palestinian issue.

As usual, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is very careful with his words but is still very encouraged about the very fact of the dialogue. He admits that there is indeed no agreement but finally there is a dialogue, and when one speaks with friends one may even convince them. When I asked him whether he meant that the Israeli Government may also be persuaded on the Palestinian issue, Shamir replied: not on that. He adds that President Mitterrand knows that and does not entertain any illusions about it. It was the first visit by a French head of state and at the end of the week Yitzhaq Shamir is saying that there are clear signs that Israel is beginning to emerge from its political isolation.

[Shamir] First of all, the very fact of the visit should be seen as an act, a first-rate political act. The importance of this act should be regarded in the context of the special situation of the State of Israel. One should not ingore the fact that this visit took place shortly after the United Nations General Assembly passed a wicked resolution calling for severing all ties with the State of Israel, for boycotting and isolating it. This visit proves the futility of these resolutions aimed at striking at or lowering Israel's stand.

This visit will undoubtedly encourage our friends in the world who do not dare, in light of the strength of Israel's enemies, express their friendship. I believe that the visit was of extraordinary political importance and we will see the results of this act in the near future. Undoubtedly, there is now room and a chance for cooperating in various spheres, something which had been impossible under previous French regimes.

[Question] Is it possible to speak about actual promises? What about our international status? We are trying to return to Africa. Will France help us in this direction?

[Answer] To this day, France exercises great influence in various African countries, mainly in French-speaking countries. It is highly likely that through our talks with France a way will be found to carry out joint actions, compatible with the interests of both.

[Question] Sir: From your words I infer that France did not make any promises on practical matters but that a dialogue has started.

[Answer] There is a dialogue, there is in principle a positive approach to various issues which were raised in the talks. Clearly, in 1 or 2 days of talks it is impossible to reach agreements or to determine the specifics of cooperation. The foundation, however, has been laid.

[Question] This visit may also attest that there is a great deal of sympathy toward us both among the French people and the current government. There are, however, many differences of opinion in the political sphere. In fact, the French Government basically does not agree to our approach for solving the conflict here.

[Answer] We regret the differences of opinion between us and France about the Palestinian problem. These differences of opinion were expressed in this visit. However, in the political sphere, too, when there are close relations, when there is mutual openmindedness there is always a chance to reduce the differences and to deepen and expand mutual understanding.

[Question] Mr Shamir: Did the Israeli Government take into account the possibility that now that the visit has taken place, Mitterrand, the French and the Europeans in general will strive to grant legitimization to the PLO since they will feel they have done their duty toward Israel and they will now try, maybe, to make their way through into the Arab world.

[Answer] First of all, I would not turn the whole of Europe into a partner in this act, an act that was entirely the doing of the French and of President Mitterrand. Mitterrand did not carry it out on behalf of and for the sake of Europe. I do not believe that this political act will remain a single act. It is the beginning of a certain line and I cannot imagine that it will be followed by entirely or substantially opposing acts. As is known, President Mitterrand was asked his opinion about 'Arafat's visit to Paris and from his reply one may deduce his attitude toward granting legitimization to the PLO. This effort to heighten consideration for and the prestige of the PLO in Europe has been going on for many years and I do not think that Mitterrand's visit will make a contribution in this direction. I foresee that this visit will encourage other European leaders to take Israel's positions more into consideration and to imitate and follow France's efforts to enter a dialogue with us.

[Question] As foreign minister, do you not feel that our positions are unacceptable to the so-called enlightened world public opinion?

[Answer] There is not just one model of public opinion. The situation differs in the United States, even in Europe there are differences between one country and another. There are differences of opinion -- we are in a special situation. At the same time, this visit proves that we are not isolated -- true, some want to isolate us -- that all efforts to slander, calumniate, isolate and boycott us have been to no avail; we are not isolated. Other political visits will take place in Israel this month and I have no doubt -- and this is also clear to the French -- that Mitterrand's visit will be followed by the visits of other heads of state.

TALKS WITH FRANCE TO INCLUDE ARMS, N-REACTOR

TA071622 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] A joint French-Israeli committee will discuss, by the end of next month, the sale of arms and of a nuclear reactor by France to Israel. A senior official in Jerusalem said the joint French-Israeli economic committee will meet, for the purpose of this discussion, for the first time since 1967. He stressed that this would be only an initial discussion.

BEGIN STILL ILL, DELEGATES POWERS TO EHRLICH

TA061937 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] It was reported from the prime minister's house this evening that Mr Begin is recovering from the weakness which seized him at the end of last week but his physicians instructed him to rest for another 3 days at least. This evening Mr Begin then announced that he is delegating his powers to Mr Ehrlich and that Mr Ehrlich will chair tomorrow's weekly Cabinet session.

Mr Begin slept in Saturday, resting at home. The weekly Bible circle was held at his home this evening although Mr Begin himself could not attend it, as was the case several times lately due to the pains he is suffering from in his leg.

MINISTERS SHAMIR, SHARON ADDRESS CABINET SESSION

TA071247 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir believes the visit by French President Mitterrand will undoubtedly create a precedent likely to influence European leaders and their policies. The foreign minister gave this optimistic view at this morning's Cabinet meeting. More from Alan Ben-'Ami:

[Begin recording] The foreign minister said that Israel should get used to the idea that a new period has opened in its relations with France. From now on Franco-Israeli relations will be based on friendship and understanding. We are not glossing over differences of opinion, the foreign minister said. He reminded his Cabinet colleagues that Israel has differences of opinion too with the United States, yet the basic friendship is not affected. Mr Shamir pointed out to his colleagues that President Mitterrand had made it clear he would not be involved in any attempt to impose a solution of the Middle East conflict on Israel. The French president had expressed his opinions on the issue while saying that any solution must be sought and found by the parties involved alone. On the question of a Palestinian state the French president had not talked of where its borders should be, Shamir said. He said the visit had also included discussion on a wide range of bilateral interests which, he said, would lead to further dialogue and cooperation in the future.

The government also had a briefing from Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon on the situation regarding Yamit and the strike by Druze residents on the Golan. Briefing newsmen after the Cabinet session, the prime minister's spokesman, Uri Porat, said that the Cabinet had confined itself to a short and straight-forward briefing on developments in Yamit and the roadblocks put up in Judaea and Samaria this morning. There was no discussion on the issues, he said.

Regarding the strike by Druze residents on the Golan Heights the Cabinet was told that many members of the Druze population had asked the Israeli authorities for help against the threat of action against them by religious elements. It was made clear during the Cabinet session that Israeli law was not in effect on the Golan. It would be used against lawbreakers. Residents who preferred to live in Syria would not be prevented from going there.

The director general of the Interior Ministry, Hayim Kubersky, told the Cabinet about last week's autonomy talks in Cairo by the working group of experts. No progress was apparently made during those talks and it is likely that when Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali visits Israel next week the date may be set for a new round of autonomy talks at ministerial level. The Egyptian foreign minister is due here tomorrow for a few hours only to meet with Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon regarding the border demarcation in Sinai. [end recording]

BEGIN TO RESUME FULL SCHEDULE 'LATER IN WEEK'

TA071228 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] The prime minister's spokesman today said Mr Begin rested well Saturday following his bout of fatigue suffered during the visit of President Mitterrand. The prime minister worked at his home today. The Cabinet session was chairmed by Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich. According to the prime minister's spokesman Mr Begin should be back at his office and pursuing a full work schedule later in the week.

MINISTER BURG ACCEPTS DRUCKMAN'S RESIGNATION

TA051832 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Interior and Religious Affairs Minister Yosef Burg has accepted Mr Hayim Druckman's resignation as deputy minister for religious affairs. The letter of resignation has been turned over to the Cabinet Secretariat. In his letter Druckman said he could not support a government that permits uprooting settlements. Earlier this week, Druckman joined the three-member Tehiya party in voting no confidence in the government policy concerning the evacuation of the Yamit region.

SHARON: ARMS RACE WITH ARAB COUNTRIES OVER

TA071547 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Israel has stopped the arms race with Arab countries, and will adopt alternate measures to safeguard its power, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said this afternoon at a ceremony at the signing of an agreement with his ministry's employees on the resolution of the labor dispute at the Defense Ministry. Our military correspondent Sha'ul Stav attended the ceremony.

[Begin recording] [Sharon] We have reached a state of affairs where we have been forced to check and stop the arms race. We have no intention to add, in the eighties, even a single tank, even a single gun or even a single aircraft. We naturally will have to replace outdated equipment -- we possess today hundreds of articles of all sorts that have become outdated -- and those will have to be replaced by more modern tools, especially when Arab countries are today receiving the most modern and sophisticated weapons.

[Stav] While stopping the arms race, the defense minister says, Israel has adopted alternate measures to maintain its power. We have postulated clear situations which we shall regard as a casus belli, a reason for action. We took steps to improve our quality, and we shall continue enhancing the awareness of Israel's deterrence capability.

[Sharon] All this obligates us to improve efficacy and productivity, to seek new ways of organizing training; to seek new combat theories; and you, who are sitting here, are our loyal partners in accomplishing these goals. [end recording]

RADIO REPORTS SECRETARY HAIG'S REMARKS ON AID

TA050542 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig has said there is no room for comparison between U.S. aid to Israel and that to Egypt. With Israel the United States has had a very long period of ties involving aid intended to maintain its unique [as heard] superiority in the balance of power, whereas the aid to Egypt only began 3 years ago, when the Egyptians ceased to receive Soviet aid. Our Washington correspondent, Shalom Qital, reports that the secretary of state was speaking before the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Haig said an additional $300 million that Israel is due to receive this year in military aid cannot be given as a grant because of U.S. budgetary constraints.

JORDAN'S AL-QASIM VIEWS PLO INFILTRATION

TA041250 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Jordan will not allow Palestinian terrorists to penetrate into Israel from its territory. This was said by Jordan's Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim in an interview to the Kuwaiti paper AS-SIYASAH. According to him, terrorist infiltration from Jordan will serve Israel with an excuse to attack on the eastern front. The Jordanian foreign minister said Jordan and the Soviet Union have set up a joint committee to supervise Jordan's arms purchases from Moscow. Establishment of the committee was decided upon during King Husayn's visit in the Soviet Union last year.

SHARON ON 'CLEAR PROVOCATION,' HABIB VISIT

TA071857 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon says that Israel does not intend to attack the PLO in southern Lebanon, but reserves the right to defend its citizens. Sharon was speaking in a satellite interview with ABC Television Network.

[Begin Sharon recording] Israel is looking for a peaceful solution in Lebanon. We don't have any intention whatever to annex any part of Lebanon. We made it very clear many times. We were asked not to do anything unless it is going to be a clear provocation. And at first, of course, what is a clear provocation when it comes to Israel and to Jews? A clear provocation, in our opinion, is when Jews in Israel are killed. That is a clear provocation. And we have this right, of course, to defend ourselves. But we have shown, I believe, great patience now, waiting for the efforts done by Ambassador Habib, in order to find a peaceful solution. But I am afraid that as long as the Americans, and I mean the American administration, is trying to find a solution for Lebanon, together with the Syrians, who decided to occupy Lebanon, as a matter of fact, have been occupying most of Lebanon, since January 1976, it will be very hard to find any solution for this area. [end recording]

FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS TALKS WITH U.S. ENVOY

TA080916 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] U.S. envoy Philip Habib said that during his last tour of the region he realized that all parties were interested in maintaining the cease-fire. Foreign Minister Yatzhaq Shamir emphasized that Israel wants a solution to the basic problems in Lebanon but if the present situation lasts Israel will not take action to change it. The two made their remarks after conferring in Jerusalem this morning. In the afternoon Habib will meet with the prime minister. Habib will leave for Washington tomorrow.

PRIME MINISTER BEGIN TO MEET WITH HABIB 8 MAR

TA080850 Jerusalem POST in English 8 Mar 82 p 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Text] The U.S. special envoy for the Lebanon crisis, Philip Habib, will meet with Israeli leaders today after a week-long swing through Jordan, Syria and Saudi Arabia. Habib will call on Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in the morning, and see Prime Minister Menahem Begin at his home in the late afternoon.

Israeli sources said last night that they did not know what, if anything, the envoy was bringing back with him from this latest round of talks. Habib arrived in Israel from Saudi Arabia, the fifth stop in his latest shuttle, which had already taken him to Lebanon, Israel, Jordan and Syria. The news blackout that has characterized Habib's talks so far was maintained yesterday, and nothing was revealed of his discussions in Saudi Arabia.

However, PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Riyadh yesterday and met with Crown Prince Fahd, sparking speculation that Habib may have induced the Saudis to use their influence over 'Arafat to reinforce the cease-fire in southern Lebanon. Saudi Arabia is reported to have played a major role in securing the cease-fire engineered by Habib last July.

'Arafat arrived in Riyadh from the Saudi Red Sea port of Jiddah, where he has been attending an Islamic conference seeking ways to end the Iran-Iraq war.

Salah Khalaf ("Abu Iyad", 'Arafat's second-in-command, told UPI in an exclusive interview yesterday that Israel had "postponed" plans for a major operation in Lebanon. "A month ago," he is quoted as saying, "the Christians were strengthening their positions in (Christian) east Beirut, and I thought Israel would make a big attack reaching as far as Ad-Damur." However, he continued, "They have postponed it. But I believe we will have a big battle with Israel in the south. But it won't be now. When it will be, I cannot guess."

The PLO has been bracing itself for a massive Israeli strike in southern Lebanon for some weeks now. Israel's recent warnings that it would be forced to respond to PLO attacks on its citizens by attacking PLO bases in southern Lebanon raised a serious question-marked or the continuation of the cease-fire, prompting Habib to embark upon his current trip.

EGYPT INDIGNANT ABOUT PUBLICITY ON MUBARAK VISIT

TA062005 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram reports that the Egyptian Government has expressed indignation about the publicity Israel has given to President Mubarak's refraining from visiting Jerusalem. This publicity, the Egyptians are saying, is creating obstacles for President Mubarak. Our correspondent adds that the Egyptian president is looking for appropriate ways that will be acceptable to Israel as well so that he will be able to pay a state visit before the completion of the Sinai evacuation at the end of April. Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will arrive in Israel and accompanied by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon he will tour the disputed points on the Egyptian-Israeli border.

JERUSALEM TO NOT GIVE IN OVER BORDER DISPUTE

TA071141 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 7 Mar 82 pp 1, 11

[Report by political correspondent Ilan Kfir and Sha'ul Galay]

[Text] Jerusalem has decided not to give in to Egypt in the dispute over the demarcation of the border in Taba, near Elat, and in Rafah. This position will be made clear tomorrow to Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali who will arrive in Israel for a few hours to discuss the issue. In consultations at the senior political-security level, it was decided that in light of Israel's far-reaching concessions "one should expect Egyptian flexibility, especially in view of the fact that at stake are only a few meters rather than fundamental issues. [quote marks as published]

Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ali, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and a team of experts from the Foreign and Defense Ministries will tomorrow tour the Rafah region. The Egyptian minister will return to Israel on 15 March to attend the meeting of the supreme committee on normalization. Sha'ul Galay reports:

"The opposition supports the government's position on the issue of leaving the Taba Beach within Israeli territory," Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres said in the course of a 3-day tour in Elat concluding today. Mr Peres described the problem of the border between Israel and Egypt as the most urgent issue between the two countries. "Israel must firmly insist on its position because documents on the location of the border are not as unambiguous as the Egyptians claim," Peres noted.

It has been learned that the United States is sharply critical of Egypt's political rigidity and has praised Israel's peace policy. In political contacts between Washington and Jerusalem, the United States has praised the determination displayed by the Israeli Government to evacuate the Yamit area. U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis has expressed the administration's position in recent contacts with Israeli personalities. It has also been learned that the United States has made clear to Egypt through diplomatic channels that it is very worried about President Husni Mubarak's recent moves -- moves unlikely to strengthen peace. In its messages to Cairo, the United States argued that the Egyptian president's refusal to visit Jerusalem heightened Israel's fears about the future.

EGYPT'S FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT BORDER AREA

TA071859 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Egypt's foreign minister, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, is due in Israel tomorrow. He will meet with Defense Minister Sharon to discuss the marking of the border at Rafah and Elat, and will then return to Egypt in the evening.

SHARON, 'ALI TOUR DISPUTED BORDER IN SINAI

TA080820 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon are touring the international border between the two countries now in order to settle the bones of contention regarding the border demarcation.

EVACUATION OF YAMIT DISTRICT TO CONTINUE 7 MAR

TA042033 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] It is expected in Yamit that the opponents of the withdrawal will be evacuated tomorrow morning or at the latest, on Sunday morning, 7 March. This has been reported by our correspondent Shalom Oren. Military and police forces evacuated 37 families today from the Moshavim Talme Yosef and Nir Avraham and from the settlement Ma'oz Hayam, near Haruvit. There are still members of the Stop the Sinai Withdrawal Movement in Moshav Peri Gan, which is a sort of transit station for settlers.

This evening a man who went through the Erez roadblock despite the soldiers' warnings was arrested. After the soldiers began to pursue him he pulled out a rifle and shot twice at a border guard post. Before that, three of the sympathizers of the Stop the Sinai Withdrawal Movement were arrested after having tried to break through a roadblock near Nir Avraham.

The committee of businessmen in Yamit is asking Prime Minister Menahem Begin to postpone for at least a week the order to evacuate the opponents of the withdrawal from Yamit town.

The businessmen's committee wants to wait for a week in order to see if a positive direction will be taken in the negotiations over the compensation. The businessmen's committee is also asking the prime minister to instruct the government officials not to hold up the implementation of the compensation agreement.

IDF TO 'PRESS' SINAI SETTLERS TO LEAVE 15 MAR

TA051127 Jersualem POST in English 5 Mar 82 p 1

[Report by Moti Ben-Yanay]

[Text] The army will begin to press even bona fide Sinai settlers to leave the area beginning on March 15, a senior military source said yesterday. The authorities want the territory completely cleared of civilians by the end of the month, nearly four weeks before the date for Sinai's return to Egypt.

Parallel to the expulsion of unauthorized settlers this week, intensive negotiations are taking place between settlers and the prime minister's office to try to settle the question of compensation as soon as possible. Prime Minister Menahem Begin is reported to be personally involved in these discussions. Agriculture Ministry officials said that if any settlers refuse to cooperate with government-appointed assessors, the authorities will go ahead with their estimates anyway. Settlers who do not cooperate will have to appeal to the courts.

The government hopes that the whole matter will be wound up by mid-March. Special arrangements for substantial advances to be paid to settlers next week are designed to speed the process. Meanwhile, the efficiency and dispatch demonstrated by the army in expelling settlers this week reportedly have convinced antiwithdrawal activists that passive resistance will not work. They are considering the two remaining alternatives: surrender or fight. Some diehards among the permanent settlers -- in contrast to Stop the Withdrawal Movement campaigners -- have said they are prepared to use weapons, either against ourselves or against anyone to evict us.

OPERATION TO REMOVING YAMIT PROPERTY LAUNCHED

TA062040 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 19[illegible] GMT 6 Mar 82

[Report by settlement affairs correspondent Yig'al Goren]

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon today gave the go-ahead for the beginning tomorrow of the large-scale operation of dismantling the large amount of property the State of Israel has in the Yamit District. In the short time left before the Sinai evacuation hundreds of greenhouses, gigantic packing houses and a large quantity of agricultural equipment worth more than a billion shekels will be transferred. At the same time a unique operation will be launched for the transfer of all houses from three Yamit District settlements -- Talme Yosef, Peri'el and Ugda -- to new settlement regions in the Qatif bloc and the Besor District. Some of the houses will be transferred in one piece while others will be disassembled before the transfer. The transferable houses are worth about 0.5 billion shekels.

At the end of the week the settlement bodies set up a special headquarters to supervise the operation of transferring the Yamit District property. The headquarters is headed by the Jesidh Agency settlement department chairman, Prof Ra'anan Weitz.

The defense minister has announced that the IDF will maintain order during the operation of dismantling and transferring the equipment. It should be mentioned that the dismantling of the equipment began already about 2 months ago but work then stopped due to disturbances and disruptions by the withdrawal opponents.

Due to the short time left before the final Sinai evacuation the operation headquarters will mobilize many teams which will deal with transferring the equipment from several settlements simultaneously. An effort will be made to get special equipment from abroad in order to meet the tight timetable. It should be noted that the agriculturalists in the Yamit District who had received an advance as part of their compensation signed a commitment enabling the government to dismantle and transfer their property. The main question remaining now is what part of the expensive equipment in the Yamit District can be removed by the end of April and whether the Egyptians will make it possible to disassemble the rest of the equipment also after the return of the entire Sinai to their hands.

HUNDREDS OF SETTLERS BLOCK SAMARIA ROADS

TA070519 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Excerpt] At dawn today hundreds of settlers blocked main roads in Samaria, including the Nabulus-Qalqilyah road, the Nabulus-Tulkarm road and the trans-Samaria road. Our correspondent, Hayim Hecht, reports that settlers from Moshev Mehola blocked the Jordan Rift Valley Road, placed tractors and trucks across it and set tires on fire. Fistfights ensued between the protestors and inhabitants of Bet She'an who wanted to drive on the road.

The security forces have not yet reacted to the blockade of the roads in Samaria. Demonstrating settlers conferred last night with Minister Zvulun Hammer and Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir. It has been reported with Hammer rejected a request to visit Yamit. Some 30 students opposed to the withdrawal infiltrated into Yamit during the Sabbath. Members of the Movement To Stop the Sinai Withdrawal have appointed Beni Katzover of Elon More as commander of the city of Yamit.

STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS HELD IN JUDAEA, SAMARIA

TA042031 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Today there were breaches of the peace in many towns in Judaea and Samaria. In Nabulus people traveling in an Israeli vehicle were forces to fire into the air after their car was stoned. In a refugee camp near Jericho the windshield of a bus was shattered by a stone. A student demonstration at Bi'r Zayt was dispersed by teargas. There were also breaches of the peace by students in Bethlehem. In Nabulus the police arrested travelers in a car, inhabitants of one of the Jewish settlements, who fired into the air after stones had been thrown at them. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari comments that such a step against Israelis firing in reaction to the throwing of stones has not been taken for a long time. Our correspondent was told that the car had indeed been attacked, but there is now an investigation about whether there was any justification for reacting by opening fire.

TWO STUDENTS SHOT DURING DEMONSTRATIONS

TA061415 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Two students have been injured by soldiers' shots during a demonstration. One of them was wounded in the leg and the other received critical wounds in the stomach. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the students in the Kadri Tuqan and the Hajj Ma'zuz al-Masri schools ran wild in their classes and began hurling stones at an IDF patrol. For a short while tempers calmed but later the students began throwing stones again and going out into the streets. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari reports that about 40 students attacked 4 soldiers. The officer who commanded them fired in the air and later toward the students' legs.

In a debriefing by the security personnel it was learned that the youth who was injured in the leg was not a student but a leading inciter. The students' parents tried to calm the atmosphere but their efforts were in vain. Security sources noted that since the disturbances in Nabulus began, in the middle of February, they have been concentrated only in these two schools. Nabulus sources said that the disturbances occurred against the background of the attempt to pray on Temple Mount and due to the military authorities' demand that the students' parents act to maintain order. Our correspondent has learned that the military authorities had advance knowledge of the demonstration and that yesterday they tried in vain to summon the students and their parents.

Further Details

TA071918 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Student disturbances continued today in Nabulus, Hebron, Ramallah and Al-Birah over the closure of Bi'r Zayt University and of the wounding of two students in disturbances in Nabulus over the weekend. Jerry Cheslow reports:

[Begin recording] The head of Central Command, Gen Uri Or, visited Nabulus today in the wake of yesterday's disturbances in which two youths were wounded, one in the stomach and the other in the leg. Or said that the investigation into the incident shows that the soldiers had in fact acted according to regulations and fired at the legs of students who had stoned them. One of the soldiers had been injured in the face by a stone. In spite of rumors that one of the youths had died security forces say that both of them are out of danger.

The disturbances in the town continued today. There were disruptions in studies at the highschool and at An-Najah University. In the most serious incident an army patrol was stoned in the central market. The soldiers fired and grazed a youth in the hand. He did not require treatment.

Meanwhile, the nationalistic organizations in Nabulus have called a strike for tomorrow and Mayor Bassam Ash-Shak'ah says the city has been warned by the military that there would be stiff consequences if the disturbances are not stopped.

In Hebron there were demonstrations at the politechnic highschool. A Palestinian flag was hoisted and vehicles were stoned. One of the cars was that of Civil Governor Shmu'el Segev which had its windshield broken. Ten students were arrested. The principal was called into government headquarters and cautioned to stop the disturbances.

There were also demonstrations today in Ramallah and Al-Birah. These were dispersed by security forces.

STRIKING SHOPS IN NABULUS FORCED TO OPEN

TA081138 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] The Military Government has forced striking shopowners in Nabulus to open their shops, and our correspondent Arye Gus says that business is almost normal at present. However, schools and the An-Najah University remain closed today. Several stone-throwing incidents occurred in the city this morning, but no one was injured.

DRUZE CHIEF TO MEDIATE IN GOLAN HEIGHTS STRIKE

JN071736 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Shaykh Amin Tarif, chief of the Druze community in the country announced that he intends to intervene to put an end to the strike in the Druze villages in the Golan Heights. Our correspondent says there are no current contacts between the government and the Druze representatives in the Heights.

FRONTLINE STATES' SUMMIT CONCLUDES 7 MAR

EA071528 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] The summit of frontline heads of state and government, which opened yesterday, ended in Maputo this afternoon.

Addressing newsmen at the end of the meeting, the chairman of the frontline states, Julius Nyerere, said the meeting had lengthy and fruitful discussions on the problems facing our region. He added that they examined South African activities in Namibia as well as in the frontline states. The final communique of the meeting will be issued this afternoon.

Apart from the heads of state and government of Mozambique, Tanzania, Angola, Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe, the presidents of SWAPO, Sam Nujoma, and of the African National Congress of South Africa, Oliver Tambo, also took part.

Communique Issued

EA072150 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 7 Mar 82

["Text" of communique issued on the 6-7 March frontline heads of state and government meeting in Maputo]

[Text] The frontline heads of state and government and the presidents of SWAPO and the ANC of South Africa met in Maputo, the People's Republic of Mozambique, on 6-7 March 1982 to examine the latest situation in southern Africa.

The frontline summit noted the increasing aggression of imperialism through its principal instrument in the region, the racist regime of South Africa. The invasions, military aggressions and the use of armed gangsters, acts of sabotage and economic blackmail, the massive campaigns of subversive propaganda carried out by South Africa are proof of the undeclared war being waged at the moment by South Africa. The object is to continue our dependence on South Africa and to prevent the harmonious application of our plans for development, to delay at all costs the independence of Namibia and to prevent the liberation of the South African people.

The occupation of part of the territory of the People's Republic of Angola by the racist forces [words indistinct] UNITA are aimed at setting up a precedent (?internationally applicable) to any country of the region. African peoples [words indistinct] to coexist and put an end to this intolerable violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of a member state of the OAU and the United Nations.

The frontline summit expressed satisfaction at the fact that in response to the intensification of repression and crimes) carried out by the Pretoria regime there is a dynamic development of the struggle for liberation in Namibia under the leadership of SWAPO and the South African people are rising up through strikes and armed actions carried out by the ANC of South Africa.

The frontline heads of state and government decided to strengthen their coordinated action of defense to prevent the racist Pretoria regime from continuing its military aggression and economic sabotage against the free and independent states of the region and to force it to withdraw its occupation forces from the People's Republic of Angola.

They agreed to strengthen bilateral and regional cooperation among the frontline states in the diplomatic, economic, military and information fields and to intensify their material and diplomatic support for the liberation movements of SWAPO in Namibia and the ANC in South Africa to ensure the development of the armed struggle, the main form of struggle for the achievement of national independence by their peoples.

They demanded the integral application of UN Security Council Resolution No 435 of 1978 to speed up the withdrawal of the South African occupation forces and the holding of free and fair elections leading to the real independence of Namibia.

They hailed the Government of the Republic of Seychelles for the defeat it inflicted on the mercenary group sent by the regime of South Africa to carry out a coup d'etat in that country.

They condemned the support rendered to apartheid by the Western powers through the sale of weapons, trade and the transfer of technology, including nuclear technology, to South Africa. They agreed to develop actions at the level of all [word indistinct] and international organs to support the struggles of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa and denounce, condemn and isolate in all fields the apartheid regime.

The frontline heads of state and government condemned the new tactic used by South Africa, which consists in the formation, financing and training of groups of armed gangsters to destabilize the independent countries of southern Africa.

The frontline heads of state warmly hailed Prime Minister Robert Mugabe for having successfully frustrated attempts to destabilize peace and security in Zimbabwe.

Mugabe Supported

CA080656 Salisbury Service in English 0500 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Leaders of frontline states have praised the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, for dismissing ZAPU-PF officials from the government after the discovery of arms caches on party property. After their meeting in Maputo at the weekend, the heads of state and government issued a communique saying that Comrade Mugabe was justified in sacking Dr Nkomo, Mr Chinamano, Mr Msika and Mr Ntuta from the Cabinet. The leaders said the prime minister acted in time to foil attempts to destabilize peace and security in Zimbabwe.

ALGERIA

INTERIOR MINISTER ASSESSES ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

LD070026 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Mohamed Yala, member of the Political Bureau and interior minister, yesterday evening held a press conference at government palace, devoted to assessing the results of the legislative elections. After thanking newsmen for covering the elections, he announced the results of the vote counting using electronic machines. The results are:

1982 electorate: 8,990,820
1977 electorate: 7,800,000
Number of voting booths: 25,874
Number of voters: 6,054,740

The average participation in 1982 was 71.4 percent whereas in 1977 the average was 72.65 percent.

The brother minister said, in view of the increase in the number of inhabitants in some districts, it was decided to raise the number of those in the National People's Assembly from 261 to 282. He explained that all social sections are represented in the new National People's Assembly. There are 4 peasants and some small merchants and 142 officials were elected as well as 55 permanent officials in party and mass organizations, some state doctors and three lawyers who will give up their practices as the law requires. Four women also were elected.

The interior minister noted that the general average age of those elected was 42. There are 15 deputies over 55. The brother minister said the elections took place in general calm and were characterized by the spirit of responsible democracy and militant solidarity. The brother minister noted that 68 deputies were reelected. The number of former deputies who contested the recent elections is 136.

In conclusion, Brother Hadj Yala expressed the satisfaction of the political leadership with the complete success of the election of the new National People's Assembly, thanks to the complete mobilization and recruitment of militants of the FLN and all the citizens.

PLO'S QADDUMI DEPARTS; BEN YAHIA COMMENTS

LD052358 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Faruq Qaddumi, member of the PLO Executive Committee and head of the PLO Political Department, has left Algiers. Before his departure from Algiers tonight, Qaddumi described the results of the visit as fruitful and positive. He also pointed out that his talks with the Algerian leaders, headed by President Chadli Bendjedid, covered the development of the situation in the Arab region and its repercussions on the [word indistinct] as well as the strengthening of relations between the Palestinian and Algieran revolutions. In this context, he spoke about the concluded Algerian-Palestinian agreement as being of political importance and as an expression of the close and (?strong) ties between the two revolutions.

Ben Yahia, foreign affairs minister, who had seen off Faruq Qaddumi at the head of the delegation accompanying him, stressed the symbolic character of this agreement:

[Begin recording] This is the first agreement signed between the PLO and a government. This is a political act on behalf of the PLO and the Algerian Government and specific ties exist between the PLO and the Algerian Government and between the Algerian and Palestinian revolutions.

This political act, we believe, must have repercussions on relations between the PLO and the other Arab governments and other governments in the world that recognize the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. We also believe it will have repercussions at the level of governments that do not as yet recognize the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people because, in fact, there is no solution for the Palestinian people as long as the PLO is not granted this status. The PLO has won this status by the unanimity of the people's masses grouping around this organization, by the victories it has won hitherto on the battlefield and in the diplomatic field. [end recording]

SOVIET DELEGATION ARRIVES IN ALGIERS 6 MAR

LD062214 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] A Soviet delegation headed by Vasiliy Borisenko, member of the CPSU Central Committee and of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, arrived in Algiers today.

The delegation was welcomed at Houari Boumediene International Airport by Brother 'Abd al-Qadir Bunakras, head of the party's Department for Relations With the Movements and Organizations, and the Soviet ambassador to Algeria.

The Soviet delegation will hold talks with FLN officials during its stay in our country, dealing with ways and means of support for nations fighting for their freedom, independence and sovereignty.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI SPEECH AT TRIPOLI STADIUM 5 MAR

LD052126 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 1835 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Speech by Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi at the opening of the 13th African soccer games at the 11 June Stadium in Tripoli on 5 March -- recorded]

[Excerpts] I welcome you, African brothers, to Libya, the northern gate of Africa. [applause] Libya is the defender of Africa. It raises the slogans "Africa for the Africans" and "Africa has no alliance except with itself." Libya fights against imperialism and racism in defense of Africa. It is the one that brought peace to Chad. [applause] It is the one that fights shoulder to shoulder with the African liberation forces against the racist regime and against neocolonialism. [applause]

We are extremely sorry to see civil war return to Chad. Blood has been flowing profusely and division has returned to Chad after the return home from there of the Libyan forces.

Today, we challenge the enemies of Africa and the enemies of Chad, who have deceived Chad, to restore peace to Chad and to restore unity to shattered Chad, to restore life to hundreds and thousands of children who today are dying from starvation and sickness. It is a tragedy. But at the same time it confirms by its tragic episodes the truth about the Libyan role, which bolsters peace and freedom in the African Continent.

We are the ones interested in peace in Chad. We are the ones interested in the triumph of freedom in Africa because we are an extension of Chad and Chad is an extention of us. We are Africans and we are part of Africa. Africa is our continent. Peace in Africa is our concern and the triumph of freedom in Africa also concerns us. [chants]

Thus, and while we meet as Africans on Afro-Arab Libyan soil today at this friendly sporting event, we declare our challenge to the forces of imperialism and racism which are hostile to Africa and which today intervene between Libya and Africa and between Libya and the dearest and nearest of its African neighbors.

We challenge them by saying that Africa is ours and we are Africans. When we fight for the freedom of Africa, we are actually defending ourselves. When we bolster peace in Africa, we will be bolstering our peace. When we fight alongside our African brothers, we do so because we, too, are Africans.

But what excuse has a country like France to intervene or even speak about the problems of the African Continent. The problems of the African Continent, dear brothers, and guests... [sentence unfinished] We are happy to play host to you today on Libyan soil and your Libyan brothers are happy to meet you in order to express our sincerity toward our African cause and our African Continent. We unmask the truth about colonialism which is lying in wait for you and which is trying to disunite us. Brothers, the problems of Africa were caused by French colonialism, British colonialism and U.S. interference and the racist regimes which were planted in Africa.

The problems from which Chad is suffering were caused by detested French colonialism. The problems from which Africa is suffering were caused by French and British colonialism. The military face of colonialism vanished, but colonialism has not yet completely vanished. The church in Africa is not an African church. It is a colonialist church. (?Its) language is not an African national language. It is a colonialist language. Economic activity in Africa is not African nationalist economic activity but instead colonialist, exploitationist and capitalist economic activity.

France considers Africa its own plantation from where 75 percent of your resources go to feed the factories of France and allow the French people to live a comfortable life, whereas you, brother Africans, live in wretched hardship and terrible underdevelopment. This is the French vision of Africa, as a plantation, a mine for France.

As for the United States, it regards Africa as a legacy left by the French after D'Estaing. It is trying today to dig in its poisoned claws and the U.S. (?dragon) wants to come to suck the blood of Africa.

From here, we are prepared to resist this new and old evil because we are Africans and because we work for the unity of Africa and the liberation of Africa. The unity of Africa cannot be realized until the will of Africa is liberated. Its will cannot be realized except in the heart of the battle to liberate Africa. From here, brothers, we stand rigidly to defend Africa. We are the defenders of Africa. We are the ones who defend it. We are the gateway to Africa. [applause] We shoulder this responsibility with capability, no matter how difficult and heavy it may be. We destroy from the base all the U.S. and European justifications, which we do not believe in, by which they permit themselves to interfere in Africa.

The French, the Americans and the racists must take their hands off Africa. Africa is for the Africans. They are filthy colonialists. They have kept Africa backward. They tore up Africa. They monopolized Africa. They caused all the political, economic and social problems from which Africa is suffering. We welcome you brothers, as Africans and brothers from our continent where there is a conflict between the racist regimes wanting to establish their foothold forever on the ruins of the black, indigenous inhabitants of Africa, and the vast majority of blacks despised by the racist regimes and regarded as slaves and guinea pigs on whom they carry out medical experiments. In Africa, the conflict is taking place between the enemies of freedom and the peoples claiming the right to live freely in Africa.

Today, there is a conflict going on in Sudan between the Sudanese people and the hireling military and fascist regime which is proracist and colonialist. I regret very much that this regime imposes a blackout on a popular revolution waged by an African people, the Sudanese people, the racist services, the reactionary organs and the colonialist organs imposed a blackout on the revolution of the gallant Sudanese people whose sons are falling every day as an offering on the altar of deliverance from the military, fascist, dictatorial, proracist and colonialist regime. But at this international gathering, we declare in the name of the Sudanese people that the revolution in Sudan will continue until the fascist regime falls, as the fascist regime which preceded it fell, under the feet of the Sudanese people. [applause]

If the organs owned by the forces of colonialism, racism and reaction which are aligned to the fascist regime because it is a hireling and an antipeople regime in Sudan impose a blackout on the revolution of the Sudanese people, it is our duty to inform the world by announcing the details of the revolution of the Sudanese people, in which they are engaging today and tomorrow until the fascism and racism, which is procolonialist, and the proracist hirelings have fallen.

We declare, brothers, that any intervention on the side of the collapsing fascist government in Sudan will force us to exercise our duty of intervening on the side of the Sudanese people. Any military, economic or political intervention on the side of the fascist government, which is hostile to the Sudanese people, to enable it to triumph over the Sudanese people will force us to exercise our duty of military, economic and political intervention on the side of the Sudanese people. This is a warning we address to the enemies of the Africa peoples, to the enemies of Africa, to those who intervene to defeat the Sudanese people who are daily offering sacrifices on the altar of salvation. [applause]

We address a warning to Arab reaction and Saudi reaction particularly. The Saudi reaction today has allied itself with the fascist regime which is hostile to the Sudanese people with a view to overpowering the Sudanese people. We address a warning to this reaction: Unless they restrain and curb themselves and contain themselves to their filthy artificial borders, we will put an end to this intervention which is hostile to the Sudanese people. This is because this matter concerns us and because the security of the Arab and African peoples is one and their freedom is indivisible. Their battle is one and their enemy is common. [chants]

We welcome you, brothers from Africa, of which we are a part. A struggle is raging close to the borders of this land on which you are meeting today -- this, in addition to the struggle on its eastern borders in Sudan, between the people of Sudan and fascism, which is loyal to racism and colonialism.

On the southern borders of this country, there is a struggle raging for the sake of the Unity of the Chadian people and peace and stability in Chad. It is a struggle between the forces that advocate peace, stability, freedom and unity of Chad and the forces which oppose these popular aspirations.

But I say to you once more: Those who have deceived Chad and caused it to be divided are the ones today blacking out the news of the bitter bloody struggle now raging in Chad. Ndjamena receives scores, indeed hundreds, of the dead and wounded on all fronts every day. Blood is flowing in every part of Chad. Peace totally collapsed in Chad after the return home of the Libyan forces.

This is what the French colonialists, the United States and the reactionaries and racists want. They deceived the Government of Chad and persuaded it to ask for the return of the Libyan forces to their bases. A horrible civil war is now raging in Chad. Scores, indeed hundreds, of dead are daily falling in Chad. We are fully aware of this fact. We are sorry to see that after establishment of peace and the ending of bloodshed, everything in Chad has collapsed, after the return home of the Libyan forces.

We want to show the world how the Libyan forces were the safety valve in Chad. They established peace and brought about unity. We challenge them to restore peace and stability to Chad and to put an end to bloodshed in Chad. We challenge them but we know they will fail. This is because all of them are enemies of Chad. We are sincere about Chad because Chad is part of us and we are part of it. Peace in Chad is our peace and the security of Chad is ours.

As for France, the United States, the reactionaries and racists, their security is not dependent on the security of Chad. Their interest lies in the spread of instability in Chad and Africa. Their interests lie in the shattering of Chad and in the disappearance of the state of Chad from the map. They are the enemies of Chad while we are the friends and brothers of Chad. They are the enemies of Africa but we are Africans and the Africans are our brothers and we are brothers to them.

Africa, brothers, is witnessing a struggle between racism in its south and the forces of liberation in South Africa -- and also between the people of Namibia and the racist forces centered in South Africa.

But we, brothers, herald the good tidings: The end of the imperialists will not be far off. The end of the racist regimes is certainly coming. This is because we have decided to place all our capabilities at the disposal of the African people for the sake of the liberation of the African Continent and for the defeat of racism in Africa and colonialism.

Colonialism has decided to turn us into a farm, a mine and slaves. But we have decided to seize our national wealth and exploit it ourselves. We have decided to be free.

This is the truth of the situation today between us and the forces of imperialism and its racist and reactionary allies.

Brother Africans, you live in a darkness while your wealth is used by the peoples of North America and France. They turn it into electricity and into atoms, but you live in darkness, naked and barefooted. But your wealth is stolen by France and America.

This outcry, African brothers, is not new. But we will continue to incite revolution in Africa and against the forces of exploitation, the forces of imperialism, the racist regimes, until imperialism is vanquished in spite of itself and until Africa triumps in spite of imperialism and racism. [applause]

It is extremely important, African brothers, that we realize that the struggle is now in full swing between France and the United States over the new colonization of Africa. The European imperialist banners which fall in France are being picked up by U.S. imperialism in order to hoist them anew as U.S. banners in the African Continent.

It is for this, brothers, that America now intervenes most insolently and with no due respect for the national independence of the African peoples and issues orders to them, both written and verbal. We have copies of such orders sent to a number of heads of African countries, warning them against agreeing to the holding of the OAU summit conference in Libya because this will mean bringing the end of imperialism and racial discrimination nearer. This means that Africa might enter a new era of unity, solidarity, cooperation and joint exploitation of its wealth, depriving America, France and the enemies of Africa of Africa's wealth, resources and the use of Africa's resources for the good of their peoples.

But the African heads of state loyal to their peoples and to Africa have informed us of these orders and that they have rejected America's orders. This is because America's orders to prevent the holding of the summit conference in Africa will mean the realization of the interests of America, the triumph of the U.S. will, the defeat of the African will and that Africa acts on the orders of America -- a disgrace which would be exceeded by no other disgrace for the national independence of African countries.

This is the truth about the U.S. and French policies which are totally hostile to our African Continent. They are true enemies and we must fight them. They possess no argument to stop us from fighting them anywhere in Africa for we are Africans and this is our continent. But they are racists, foreigners and colonialists.

From a purely ideological viewpoint, I would say that a sporting occasion is when we explain to those gathered here and elsewhere in the countries watching us now and those involved in these social affairs, that I am totally biased toward sports. The claims of the enemies are not true. [applause] In fact, I regard sports as essential. This is my belief. It is essential materially and morally to the individual. If Zionist and U.S. propaganda turns my revolutionary actions to terrorist action, I am not that person. [sentence as heard] I am a sporting man. I know this myself even if circumstances do not permit. [applause] I say that sport is necessary materially and morally to the individual. I encourage every individual to participate in sports. I advocate sports to the masses. All the masses should play sports. Sports concern every individual.

Sports are necessary for everyone. I call for the destruction of monopolies of sports in the same way I called for the destruction of the monopoly of power, wealth and arms. All monopolies should be destroyed.

Recently, a team came here from another country. I talked to it about its state and the improvement of relations and what benefit this team could give us while we discussed in a sporting spirit all that can be of benefit to the two countries. But we discovered that the team in question did not belong to the country whose flag it was representing and for whom was playing. We found it to be a team of mercenaries -- individuals who had been bought by that country which possesses oil. That country turned those sports heroes into slaves. It falsified their sporting heroism. They became mercenaries and false heroes.

Only recently, there was a crisis between Libya and its neighbor and friend, Tunisia, as a result of a trivial sporting incident at a football match. I therefore expressed my fears when I heard the Libyan and Tunisian teams were scheduled to meet. I was worried that this meeting might have a negative effect on the good and fraternal relations built between the two countries and strengthened by the economic integration whose foundations were laid during my recent visit to Tunisia. I am talking from an ideological standpoint. I am sure of its truth. I speak from experience which cannot be refuted. I am not making a conjecture.

I have seen in the schedule of these games that the Libyan team will meet the Ghanaian team. We are allies of the revolution in Ghana. We stand with all our potentials alongside Ghana, the new Ghana, revolutionary Ghana, the anti-imperialist, the antireactionary and the anti-racist Ghana. I hope that the sporting event between the Libyan and Ghanaian teams will not have a negative effect on revolutionary and fraternal relations between the Libyan and Ghanaian peoples.

At any rate, I am very pleased that we meet as Africans and talk about our troubles and problems and focus on the path to the future -- the path of deliverance from colonialism, racism and underdevelopment. I thank you brother Africans who provided us with the opportunity, and the opportunity you have provided for these thousands of sons of the Libyan people who are enjoying themselves in the traditional way -- as spectators lazily occupying the terraces of the stadium. I hope they will not produce any adverse results on the competitions.

I wish you success and I welcome you.

MAURITANIA

CONSPIRATORS IN FAILED COUP PLOT SENTENCED

AB051526 Paris AFP in French 1406 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Dakar, 5 Mar (AFP) -- The principal conspirators behind the abortive coup in Nouakchott on the night of 6 February have been sentenced to 10 years imprisonment and their property will be confiscated by the state, it is reported by well informed sources in Dakar. Among those sentenced are former President Moustapha Mohamed Ould Saleck and former Prime Minister Sidi Ahmed Ould Bneijara.

CHADIAN MINISTER REJECTS OAU DECISION

LD052200 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] The chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, received a special envoy from Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei this evening in the presence of Mauritanian Justice and Islamic Affairs Minister Abdelaziz Ould Ahmed.

The envoy, Chadian Justice Minister Kassire Delwa Koumakoye, arrived in Nouakchott this afternoon. In a statement to the radio correspondent, he said he brought a message from President Goukouni Oueddei to Lt Col Mohamed Kouna Ould Haydala, dealing with the situation in Chad.

He said in Chad has been witnessing grave developments as a result of the [word indistinct] recently adopted decision by the OAU. The standing committee on Chad, he said, is no more than a farce and a betrayal of Africa. This, he said, should be made clear to the friendly countries.

He also said his country will never negotiate with Hissein Habre because he is an enemy of the Chadian people. Had his forces been working for the good of the country, they would have laid down their arms and chosen the road of [words indistinct]. He said that the OAU has crushed the hopes of the Chadian people. It has sent troops to help the Chadian people, he said, but as soon as they entered the arena, they turned themselves into a tool of world imperialism. He said the Chadian Government does not recognize the recent Nairobi decision because it only concerns those who prepared it. He praised the Libyan forces' role in protecting the security and stability of Chad.

HAYDALA SENDS MESSAGE TO POLISARIO FRONT LEADER

AB021849 Paris AFP in French 1743 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Nouakchott, 2 Mar (AFP) -- The admission of SDAR into the OAU constitutes a victory for Africa as a whole, says Mauritanian head of state Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala in a message addressed to the secretary general of the Polisario Front on Tuesday.

The Mauritanian head of state declared in his message: "This admission is a victory for the Saharan people in their liberation fight. It is also a victory for the whole of Africa over the intransigence and impediments from certain quarters during the past 3 years."

MOROCCO

HASSAN MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF ACCESSION TO THRONE

LD041630 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Marrakech, 4 Mar (MAP) -- On the occasion of the twenty-first anniversary of the accession of King Hassan II to the throne of his glorious ancestors, the Moroccan monarch made the following speech:

"Grace and peace be on the prophet, his family and his companions.

"Dear people, for several days, you devoted yourself to preparing the celebration of this memorable day which marks our accession to the throne of our glorious ancestors. The event that you are celebrating today in spontaneity, joy and fervor and which inspires you a legitimate pride reflects in reality the close ties uniting us and expresses your constant faithfulness to the noble ideals that the national day symbolizes.

Indeed, dear people, the joy you feel in celebrating this glorious day reflects the perenniality of the national conscience always alive through ages. It recalls the struggle you led to safeguard your sovereignty and your dignity, to defend the integrity of your national territory and the heritage of your ancestors, to ensure the persistence of the values of Islam that are the foundations of your civilization and your existence. This joy is the result of your patient but tireless action for a better future. It also reflects your continued search for new achievements whose stirring pursuit allowed you to jugulate difficulties, overcome obstacles and dominate crisis.

The celebration of the throne day is also the occasion for you to meditate on the significance of the huge work achieved by your ancestors who built an authentic civilization and at the same time to relive the successes won thanks to them by your country and to be the witness of the inexorable march of the national destiny towards further progress and wellbeing.

"Dear people, each throne day confirms with as much glamour your indefectible attachment to all this occasion means and represents. As for us, it inspires you happiness and pride. [as received] We share your sentiments that our history reflects and which symbolizes the common struggle and the permanent jihad of the throne and the people intimately united by identical aspirations, a unique conscience and hope.

"This blessed day makes us relive the grace God granted us and which allowed our meeting, the intimacy of our links, our solidarity and our perfect understanding.

"We are meeting today, and as usual, at the same happy circumstance. It is the highlight of all meetings held in the course of the year and in diverse occasions, because this privileged meeting allows us to address you and allows you to listen to your sovereign who is your guide, evoke for you the broad lines of the state policy.

"We would like you to be, first of all, informed of our firm will so that the values and the principles symbolized by your national day be kept up, values and principles that we want to be perennialized in your heart and in your mind and by your succeeding generations. After all, we are intimately convinced of such everlastingness, because we are assured that God bestowed his virtues upon you and provided you with an exemplary morality.

"As you know, dear people, we are constantly making use of ways that may lead to your happiness and to your safety. We shall undertake all moves that may provide you with prosperity and wellbeing.

"For this, we remain faithful to the mission God entrusted us with for the welfares of our people to whom we are linked by feelings of love and pride.

"Dear people, diverse major events, that will certainly have their impact on the evolution of the world, have marked the previous year. But what we retain, and what had more direct effect on the life of our people is drought which affected Morocco as well as a number of other countries of the region. It persisted until it brushed bearable limits. And of course, its consequences have been felt everywhere, both in towns and countrysides.

"We have first of all attempted to alleviate the effects. Diverse measures were taken, and a real plan has been prepared which allowed Morocco to go through this difficult stage without undergoing all sufferings that many peoples who went through the same situation underwent. Being, however, a natural phenomenon that is beyond human control and willingness, we attempted in the last resort to pray to God by performing all over the kingdom prayers for rainfall.

"God, in his clemence and compassion heard our appeal and responded. Beneficient rains have forthwith watered our soil. So without losing time, the hardworking people of our countrysides got at once mobilized for working its land. Ploughing and sowing were made in the best conditions, as we decided to organize the "twiza" (collective ploughing). This operation gave birth to an exemplary solidarity among everybody, those who are incumbent of a living and those who are less, and allowed our farmers, in a short time, to plough up their fields with a maximum of means and efficiency.

"In drawing the lesson from what this solidarity allowed, we gave our instructions so that all equipments and instruments allowing a rapid and rational ploughing be exempted from taxes that affected them since their entry in Morocco.

But above all, it appeared to us more than ever, the vital necessity to proceed to the optimal valorization of our ploughed fields and to untiringly carry on our policy of dam building, including hilltop dams.

"In order to compensate in a more complete and sure way the chances of our climatology, we have instaured the agricultural baccalaureat that will allow to its holders, future young farmers, to be better armed for working their fields.

It is at these conditions that we can better assume the task of working 40 million hectares to be achieved before the year 2000. In paying homage to our people for the courage, the discipline and the national conscience it is proving in these particularly difficult moments, we first and at last thank the Almighty for His countless Godsends and for His benediction that guides and enlightens each of our steps.

"During the previous year, Morocco had the privilege to shelter the 12th summit of the Arab League in which participated several brother heads of state and of which we had the noble and heavy task to direct the works.

Issues essential for the future of the Arab nation figured in its agenda. All of them were of equal importance. And because of their importance, we had judged it necessary that their examination could not be done usefully while taking the easy way out, and especially we estimated that the decisions concerning them could not be validly made unless all of the Arab heads of state, without exception, were together assembled. Thus, everyone would assume his part of responsibility, and everyone would measure exactly the commitment he would take.

The understanding of all of them allowed us once again to appreciate the remarkable wisdom that characterizes the deliberations of most of our brother Arab heads of state, as well as their perspicacity and their willingness to serve our sacred cause far from any selfish or partisan consideration.

"The wisdom of all having thus prevailed, everyone was convinced, as we had suggested it, of the necessity to postpone the works of the Fes summit, to be later on resumed, when the resolutions will have the maximum chance to be implemented.

"The Sahara problem remains, on the other hand, our major and basic concern.

The fate of the populations of our southern provinces is evidently the subject of our constant solicitude. Nothing is neglected, and all appropriate measures are taken to ensure them a decent and dignified life. Having remained for a long time under foreign domination, far from any cultural or technical preparation likely to make of them competitive populations both at the regional and international levels, they know today the benefits of progress and start to enjoy all advantages of economic and social development that we endeavour to provide them with. Their integration into the whole of the national community is carried out without any difficulty, but in the safeguard of their specificity, their own genius, and of the imperatives of what was for decades their living framework. [as received]

"Such is precisely one of the main objectives of the Saharan consultative council that we set up. First of all, we insisted so that its composition provides it with the maximum of representativity, at such extent that it can be considered as the authentic spokesman of diverse tribes, shrines and communes of our southern provinces.

"The role it will play, at present and in the future, will not be negligible but useful in the context and perspectives of the policy we conduct for our Sahara.

"On the military plan, our armed forces are being organized and further strengthened each day.

"The double role they play is particularly worthy of eulogy. They first of all participate gladly to the structuration of our Saharan provinces and allow our subjects of these provinces to lead a peaceful life compared to that of all other provinces of our kingdom.

They balk, with courage, abnegation and a spirit of sacrifice at all infiltrations that the mercenaries undertake.

Thanks to them, we can say that our control of the terrain is today total and that our provinces of the Sahara are at the shelter of any serious menace.

"On the level of international organizations, we insisted on going in person, twice successively, to Nairobi, capital of Kenya, where the Organization of African Unity was holding its meetings. For sometime now, we felt that the deliberations of the OAU summit of June 1981 would be determinating in regard to the Sahara problem.

"This last summit of June 1981 was first of all for us the major occasion to expose to most of the heads of state of Africa the viewpoint of our country, and to explain to them in a clear way the well-founded [as received] of our rights.

"Responding then to the friendly request that has been made to us by a number of Arab, African and European heads of state, we accepted the organization of a referendum in the Sahara. This referendum will allow our faithful subjects to confirm the allegiance their ancestors and they themselves expressed to us as well as their attachment of our person.

"Thus, our right will be definitively consecrated and the unity of our country and integrity of our territory confirmed.

"Finally, this summit presented us with the occasion to say in public, before all African heads of state, the vile truths to the mercenaries, especially to their masters who manipulated them odiously.

An implementation committee was then set up to supervise the organization and the setting up of a referendum.

We went for a second time to Nairobi to participate in the works of the summit of this implementation committee.

The resolutions of this last summit had to go once again towards our wishes and the wishes of those, who like us, remain attached to legality, legitimacy, and the sincerity of the consultation.

And while the implementation committee was carrying on its task, the ordinary session of the OAU ministers council, usually devoted to administrative and budgetary affairs, was being recently held in Addis Ababa. We were amazed to learn that following fraudulous maneuvers of the Administrative Secretariat of the OAU, the mercenaries were admitted to participate in the works of this council.

"We immediately seized the acting chairman of the OAU as well as all African leaders to tell them about our indignation, and mainly to denounce this irresponsible move of the OAU Secretariat.

"Sharing our indignation, several brother heads of state raised with energy against the blatant violation against the dispositions of the charter and against all pertinent resolutions adopted by several successive summits on this matter.

"We loudly say, and we are persuaded that all the wisemen of Africa share our sentiment: If the course is not rapidly straightened out and if the legality and the legitimacy are not rapidly re-established, we risk to expose the OAU to a split-up.

This warning deserves to be heard in all its gravity, because the interest of our continent lies evidently in its unity and in its homogeneity, and not in its tearing apart.

"For our part we remain determined to tirelessly defend our rights and nothing will make us renounce our commitments concerning the ceasefire and the referendum in the Sahara.

"Dear people, the improvement of the quality, dimension and volume of our relations with friendly countries is one of the recurrent elements of our policy. We answered the invitation that was extended to us by the president of the French Republic and we have undertaken a visit to Spain during which we conferred with HM King Juan Carlos of Spain. We have also received in Morocco the American secretary of state, General Alexander Haig.

"In Paris, we held loyal and sincere talks with His Excellency President Mitterrand. No contentious matters oppose Morocco to France. We have been able to draw a balance-sheet in utter objectivity with our eminent interlocutor of all that unites our two countries. We have laid out the way for future cooperation with large perspectives for the future.

The understanding for our problems we have perceived in the president of the French Republic is for us the best guarantee for this cooperation that we, all of us, want to be fruitful for our two peoples.

"Upon return to Morocco, we received Mr Alexander Haig, American secretary of state. It was for us the opportunity to exalt the secular friendship uniting Morocco and the United States since its independence.

We also examined and analysed the current situation in the world while laying particular stress on its repercussions and implications of our regional context. The conclusions we have reached reveal the identity of views and convergence of the preoccupations of which we can only congratulate ourselves for we are all determined to go on examining them to reach together the resulting consequences.

When we visited Spain, our brotherly talks with the sovereign, HM King Juan Carlos were of great use. They both confirmed and consolidated the friendship between our two peoples and allowed us to lay out the perspectives of relations existing between our two countries and the role Morocco and Spain have to play in the whole region. We should not forget it, Morocco and Spain are neighbours. Soon they are to be connected by what we already call the "fixed link."

"All these contacts and meetings abroad were for us the opportunity to ascertain once more the prestige Morocco enjoys with our friends. We say it with legitimate pride for it crowns the credibility and earnest for our people and our country. It is true that our meetings with the representatives of some friendly countries caused a lot of stir and commentaries. Yet we insist on precising that Morocco is primarily and essentially an independent and sovereign country.

"Being an independent country, Morocco will undergo no pressure no matter what its origin is and will submit to no hegemony no matter its nature.

"Being a sovereign country, it means to entirely exercise its sovereignty especially while selecting its friends.

By no means this choice will be arbitrary. It will always meet the deep aspirations of our people, ensure the radiance of our country whose legitimate ambition is to serve the interests of peace and justice in the world.

"Dear people, since the day under the reign of our later father HM King Mohamed V -- may God have mercy on his soul -- when the divine will made us acceed to independence and later invested us with the mission of conducting your affairs and protecting your interests, we have achieved great things for the safeguard, evolution and revival. It is in God we find our strength and resolve. We base our action on His inspiration, being sure we can rely on your loyalty and faithfulness as well as on your clearsightedness and licudity. Divine solicitude helped us achieve a major part of our ambitions and carry out several projects. God lit the way we have followed and which led to the carrying out of the work undertaken.

For more than a quarter of a century of independence, we have carried on our task of renovation, edification, modernization and revival. No difficulty could discourage us. No obstacle could stand in our way. We have never contented ourselves with little in the action and sacrifices for the good of the country. Morocco has been confronted with various vicissitudes and varied circumstances since the time when it stood up under the reign of Moulay Idriss I as an independent entity among states exercising all the attributes of sovereignty organizing its existence within the framework of freely chosen institutions. Our country has gone through thriving and particularly prosperous times but also through moments of grief, anguish [words indistinct]. Yet, to these vicissitudes and circumstances was opposed the determination of citizens who thanks to their untiring struggle drove away ordeals and made room for bright new days.

"Dear people, if Morocco takes a difficult path, it is sure to go through and gain more grandeur, and it is sure of the success it assured for itself with its qualities of earnest and patience, your sacrifices, the praiseworthy common efforts stepped up in various fields and our trust in God of whom we are expecting graces and blessings for all the regions of the country. Thanks to God, everything concur in supporting us, consolidating our will, relieving us and insufflating hope and optimism into us.

"Let us address our prayers to God in fervour and humility to make our steps firm, guide them on the path of salvation and go on bestowing his graces and blessings on our country. May God answer our prayers.

"Dear people, in this blessed day we have feelings of happiness, pride, hope and confidence in the future. While celebrating this dear occurence, we pay a most deferential homage to the memory of our venerated father, HM King Mohamed V. the hero of resistance, the prestigious figure of Arabism and Islam, the author of our independence and the pioneer of our renaissance. The blessing of God and his mercy be on him.

His souvenir is still with us. We await his inspiration for all of our acts to make a success of what we undertake and fulfill the expectations and ambitions he had.

This souvenir of HM King Mohamed V is all the more with us in our hearts and minds since we are celebrating the day where God entrusted us with the task of succeeding on the throne of our glorious ancestors to our venerated father.

"And no matter how fervent and full of admiration are the praises we express for HM King Mohamed V for the huge services rendered to the nation of which he made a glorious and proud nation, we will never reach the great honours he deserved. He left this earth to the call of the Almighty and left us the most undying of souvenirs thanks to his glorious conduct, the untiring struggle he had led and the illustrious example he was.

May God reward him the best way possible and bestow His grace upon him the company of His prophets, the righteous, the martyrs and the saints, for these are the best of companions.

"Dear people on the whole territory of our Sahara, our royal armed forces, the royal gendarmerie forces, security and auxiliary forces are on the lookout and push back the aggression directed against the national territory. Our forces are most vigilent and push back the attacks that have been for years launched against our recovered provinces. They face most cunning aggressions and perfidious attacks of those who refuse to draw the lesson of heroism and courage of our men which established their reputation all over the world. In every battle imposed on us, in every clash, our valiant forces defending the country, give without restriction for its freedom and safety filling thus pages of glory in our national history.

With matchless resolve and energy, our forces have for some time been faced with an enemy equipped with sophisticated weapons and regularly pushed it back. Consenting heavy sacrifices for the defense of the land of our ancestors, the inalienable and legitimate rights and the sacred values of the nation, all our armed forces deserve on this day where the Moroccan people celebrate this happy anniversary, the homage and blessing of their supreme commander for the glory they bring the Moroccan flag.

"The king of Morocco, supreme commander of the royal armed forces, the royal gendarmerie, security and auxiliary forces, is happy to address for him and on behalf of every citizen the expression of his pride and gratitude. We implore the Almighty to give aid and assistance to our forces who push back the aggressor, fight injustice and make law triumph and to ensure them as usual with brilliant victory in their combat.

"Dear people, God heaped kindness on us and united us by the ties of a symbiosis which has been and remains determinating in overcoming difficulties.

To reach planned objectives. [as received]

The modern world achieved remarkable scientific and technological progress and more than ever mastered the field of knowledge providing thus means to guarantee a better existence for mankind. But, parallel to this course, most varied doctrines and hegemonistic dreams emerged, moral values began to deteriorate and spiritual ideals to depreciate. Anxiety got hold of minds. Men are worried for the future of mankind because of the destruction means accumulated on our planet.

While being a part of this restless world, Morocco remains faithful to its values and principles and anxious to see efforts converge towards all that can bring security, quietude, wellbeing, peace, progress and prosperity.

That is why we express great hope to see mandkind take the path of safety, the one which guarantees a happy and prosperous life. We pray God to protect our country from all dangers and evils, maintain us in union and concord, perpetuate the close ties woven between us, safeguard our religion and be for us the best shelter and protection and inspire us the attachment to its holy book of God and the tradition of the prophet for His guide will never go astray.

Pardons USFP Leaders

PM071451 Paris LE MONDE in French 28 Feb-1 Mar 82 p 16

[Roland Delcour dispatch]

[Excerpt] Rabat -- In pardoning Abderrahim Bouabid, secretary general of the Socialist Union of Popular Forces [USFP], Mohamed El Yazghi, deputy for Kenitra and Mohamed Lahbabi, a renowned economist, all three members of the USFP Politburo, on the occasion of the festival of the throne, King Hassan II has made a long-awaited decision.

Although the three socialist leaders, who were sentenced to 1-year imprisonment on 24 September, lodged an appeal within the given time, the second trial never started. The three prisoners, held first in Lahlou common law prison, were taken in November to Missour, 400 km southeast of Rabat, where a villa had been quickly prepared for them.

SUDAN

OFFICIAL SOURCE REACTS TO AL-QADHDHAFI 'THREATS'

JN061508 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Khartoum, 6 Mar (SUNA) -- In a statement to SUNA, an official source asserted that Sudan will continue to beef up its close relations with Arab and Islamic countries to safeguard the unity of Arab ranks and to attain a constructive Islamic solidarity in service of Islamic world issues, foremost among which are those of the Palestinian and Afghan peoples.

The source said that serving the issues of the Arab and Islamic worlds cannot be realized through showmanship and fake slogans or by leveling false and fabricated accusations and classifying fraternal Arab and Islamic countries as reactionary and progressive, as Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is doing in the service of communist superpowers in harmony with his childish objectives, represented in his desperate attempt to become a leader.

Asked to comment on Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's statement yesterday on the occasion of the opening of the 13th African soccer championship in Tripoli that he will intervene militarily, politically and economically against Sudan and that he will attack the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for giving material and oil aid to Sudan, the official source said Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, who had previously claimed that the holy mosque in Mecca is occupied by U.S. troops and who persistently levelled false accusations against Saudi Arabia, received severe blows a few days ago when the kingdom's press and other world newspapers exposed his attempts to harm the unity of Arab ranks.

The source said: "Al-Qadhdhafi has forged the verses of the Koran, which is God's word, in accordance with his infidel beliefs. He is praising the massacres of the Iranian regime against the Iranian people and is allying himself with the sanguinary 'Alawite minority which rules Syria against the fraternal Syrian people.

Al-Qadhdhafi is protecting the terrorist forces from Asia, Africa and Latin America in order to plunder the wealth of the Libyan people. In July 1976, through his agents and mercenaries, Al-Qadhdhafi intervened in Sudan and was defeated by the glorious May movement. Today he is threatening military, political and economic intervention against Sudan and is assailing fraternal Saudi Arabia because of its developing strong relations with Sudan and its fruitful cooperation with it, particularly in the economic and investment fields. In such threats, Al-Qadhdhafi is reaffirming his scheme aimed at breaking up Arab solidarity and striking at Arab and Islamic unity of ranks.

The responsible source also said: Al-Qadhdhafi's threat to take military, political and economic actions against Sudan will only draw from us ridicule and we repeat what the Arab poet said: If Al-Firazdaq threatens to kill Marba' then Marba' will certainly live long. Al-Qadhdhafi threatens Sudan with military intervention, but we are certain that our people will cut off all hands reaching from outside Sudan's borders to create evil in the country and will teach Al-Qadhdhafi, who is guarded by Cubans and East Germans, an unforgettable lesson. We are certain that the Libyan people themselves will punish Al-Qadhdhafi for his crimes and massacres against the Libyans at home and abroad and for squandering the people's wealth on those terrorists who protect him.

Concluding its statement to SUNA, the responsible source praised the developing strong and friendly relations between Sudan and the Saudi Arabian king, Government and people. Sudan believes that these relations are a paragon of relations among the Arab and Islamic states. Sudan will always be in the service of Islam and Arabism against enemies such as Al-Qadhdhafi, who is the enemy of unity in the Arab ranks and hence the despicable servant of Zionism and communism.

Foreign Minister's Statement

JN071728 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1437 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Mar (SUNA) -- On the Libyan ruler's threats and evil intentions against Sudan, Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak made the following statement.

It is no coincidence that the Libyan regime should repeat rumors and spit venom against Sudan and its revolution. This behavior has always been the practice of the Libyan ruler whenever the Libyan people's resistance escalates against the regime and whenever Sudan's enemies realize that the Sudanese people are taking firm steps toward progress and development.

The Libyan threats and hostile posture toward Sudan is part and parcel of the sabotage activities of Libya for the cause of attempting to divide and dismember the Arabs and the African states. Moreover, Libyan nationals themselves have not escaped the regime's terror. Those Libyans living abroad were exposed to treachery and assassination by the admission of the Libyan regime itself.

It isn't strange for Libyan hostile calls and threats against Sudan to recur because Sudan is the oasis of Arab and African hopes and the preacher of peace and stability. The African Continent has condemned and focused on the Libyan practices by the admission of Libya itself. Africa respects Sudan for its serious efforts to unify Africa, to solve African issues by peaceful means and to renounce wars and conspiracies in order to realize the continent's aims in freedom, development and peace.

Concluding his statement, the foreign minister said: The great march of the Sudanese people will continue so as to realize their aims and aspirations in the interest of the Arab and African nations and will not be diverted from this course by the Libyan threats and rumors. At the same time, the Sudanese people will remain alert for plots and will deter all aggressions and terror.

ETHIOPIA

LEADERS TALK WITH CONCOLESE FOREIGN MINISTER

Feleke Meeting

EA061836 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 6 Ma. 82

[Text] The second round of talks on the strengthening of relations and collaboration between the peoples, Governments and revolutions of socialist Ethiopia and the People's Republic of Congo was held in Addis Ababa yesterday. The talks were led by Comrade Dr Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, minister of foreign affairs and Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia Central Committee member, and Comrade Pierre Nze, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Congolese Workers Party and head of the External Relations Department and minister of foreign affairs.

Comrade Nze said on the occasion that he was greatly impressed by the outcome of the struggle of the Ethiopian broad masses within a few years and the participation of both the urban and rural masses in the revolutionary process. The Congolese foreign minister noted that the victory of the Ethiopian revolution over internal and external enemies and the level attained by it at present testifies to the distinct character of the historic process set in motion in February 1974. Comrade Nze expressed full confidence that the heroic Ethiopian people will continue to emerge victorious over aggressors and interventionists and said that the people, party and Government of the People's Republic of Congo will always stand alongside the Ethiopian people.

Speaking on his part, Comrade Dr Feleke briefed the high-level Congolese delegation on the triumphs scored by the Ethiopian broad masses and on the foreign policy of socialist Ethiopia.

Mengistu Reception

EA061906 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Comrade Chairman Mengsitu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia and commander in chief of the revolutionary army, this afternoon received a message from Comrade Colonel Sassou-Nguesso, president of the People's Republic of the Congo. The message was delivered to our revolutionary leader by Comrade Pierre Nze, foreign minister of the People's Republic of the Congo, at a function held at the Asmara Palace.

In a statement at the ceremony, Comrade Pierre Nze said it is the wish of his country to learn from the high-level revolutionary experiences stemming from victories and progress of the Ethiopian revolution and to introduce them to the broad Congolese revolution. He expressed his belief that his visit to socialist Ethiopia will greatly contribute toward this end.

Comrade Pierre Nze said he is highly impressed by socialist Ethiopia's political, economic and social development and condemned the fabricated news being disseminated by the West, which is antagonist to such positive steps. He also told our revolutionary leader that he will explain to his people and government what he has learned of the Ethiopian revolutionary process, particularly on the situation in the northern part of Ethiopia.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam said the exchange of views with Comrade Pierre Nze on African and international issues will benefit the two countries' relations and their common objective.

The comrade chairman noted the unfounded and distorted propaganda campaign by some Western media regarding the existing situation and revolutionary process in Ethiopia and said it will become fruitless as soon as the truth is revealed and our revolution is victorious.

Minister: Mengistu Well

NC061605 Paris AFP in English 1554 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Asmara, Ethiopia, 6 Mar (AFP) -- Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam is in "excellent health," Congolese Foreign Minister Pierre Nze said after a two-hour meeting with the leader here today. Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu "is not sick, wounded or with stitches," Mr Nze told two AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE journalists after a meeting on "bilateral and international" issues.

The Eritrean Liberation Front (EPLF), the main guerrilla movement fighting Ethiopia for Eritrean separatism, claimed yesterday that Lt Col Mengistu had been wounded in an EPLF attack on Asmara on Monday. It said he had been flown to Addis Ababa for medical treatment and would soon be flying to Moscow for further attention. Ethiopia quickly denied the claims, calling them preposterous.

Mr Nze arrived here earlier today with his host, Ethiopian Foreign Minister Felleke Gedle-Giorgis.

ERITREAN CAPITAL SHOWS NO SIGNS OF FIGHTING

NC070958 Paris AFP in English 0944 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Asmara, northern Ethiopia, 7 Mar (AFP) -- The airport at the Eritrean capital of Asmara -- which separatist guerrillas say they have attacked five times recently -- shows no sign of damage or fighting.

Two AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE correspondents who arrived here yesterday noted no signs of extensive security measures as their Ethiopian Airlines Boeing 727 touched down on its regular stopover en route to the Middle East.

Troops were posted around the perimeter but most of their cannon were covered up, as were the MIG fighter-bombers parked in the military section of the airport.

In the Italian-style town of 250,000 people there were no tanks or roadblocks, and the Saturday market was thriving. Only the Bank of Ethiopia was protected by a number of armed soldiers behind sandbags.

MENGISTU SENDS ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE TO GHANA

EA052016 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam today congratulated the people and Government of Ghana on the occasion of the country's 25th independence anniversary. In a message to the Ghanaian leader, Flt Lt Jerry Rawlings, Comrade Chairman Mengistu said the people and Government of socialist Ethiopia are following with keen interest developments in Ghana.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

KOLINGBA PROMISES TO SPARE COUP PLOTTERS' LIVES

AB071400 Paris AFP in English 1342 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Bangui, 7 March (AFP) -- Head of state General Andre Kolingba has promised to spare the lives of two of the alleged instigators of last week's aborted putsch in the Central African Republic if they give themselves up, a reliable source said here today. The two, Francois Bozize and Alphonse Mbaikoua, were stripped of their rank of general yesterday by General Kolingba.

General Kolingba yesterday dissolved the People's Liberation Movement, the country's main opposition group, and authorities urged the three fugitives to surrender "to avoid a useless bloodbath". Central African authorities have made no formal statement on the attempted coup. General Kolingba had announced a speech for last Thursday but apparently decided against it.

FRANCE GRANTS POLITICAL ASYLUM TO PATASSE

AB080847 Paris AFP in English 0839 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Bangui, 8 March (AFP) -- Central African opposition leader Ange Patasse, who was sought in connection with an abortive coup last Wednesday, has been given political asylum by France, reliable sources here said today.

Mr Patasse whose Central African People's Liberation Movement (MLPC) was dissolved on Friday, was earlier reported to have taken refuge in the French Embassy here. The sources said a request for Mr Patasse's extradition would be made to the French authorities later today. Mr Patasse has been accused by the ruling Military Committee for National Recovery (CMRN) of "undermining the country's internal security". He was also suspected of having taken part in an attempt to overthrow head of state General Andre Kolingba on the night of March 3 to 4. Security forces are still searching for the alleged coup leaders General Alphonse Mbaikoua and Andre Bozize, respectively former minister of justice and culture and minister of information. Mr Patasse sought the help of the French authorities yesterday only a short time before security forces burst into his home outside Bangui. Shots were fired and several members of Mr Patasse's MLPC party were reportedly wounded trying to hold off government forces. Twenty four hours after last week's coup, large numbers of MLPC militants were arrested and jailed, reliable sources here said. The French decision to protect Mr Patasse has angered the country's military rulers and could have adverse effects on bilateral relations, observers said. Several members of the government have expressed their conviction that France was implicated in the attempted coup, the sources said.

CHAD

OAU REPRESENTATIVE CALLS PEACE FORCE SUCCESSFUL

AB061215 Paris AFP in French 1053 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Ndjamena, 6 Mar (AFP) -- The special representative of the OAU secretary general in Chad issued a communique in Ndjamena on Saturday, stating "all attempts aimed at giving the impression that OAU mission in Chad is a failure are simply false and without any basis."

Gebre Egziaber Dawit's communique, which was not widely published by the local press, stressed that despite the "enormous difficulties" it has been facing, the OAU has so far succeeded in doing its duty well in Chad. According to Dawit, "there is enough proof to show that the OAU has become a factor of stability and security for both Chadians and foreigners living in Chad." The continual presence of the African "blue helmets" in Chad [words indistinct] "solve the problem in one way or the other," the communique added.

GHANA

RAWLINGS 25th ANNIVERSARY ADDRESS TO NATION

AB051950 Accra Domestic Service in English 1815 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Speech to the nation by Provisional National Defense Council Chairman J.J. Rawlings in Accra on the eve of the nation's 25th anniversary -- live]

[Text] Fellow countrymen, 25 years ago, when this country became independent from British colonial rule, she was the source of inspiration to oppressed people the world over, the black people especially. The new Ghana under the confident and inspiring leadership of Dr Kwame Nkrumah became a symbol of hope. A nation was being born in which the African would control his own destiny and thereby ensure quality of opportunity as well as equality in enjoyment of the fruits of his labor in place of colonial subjugation.

So it was that this tiny country of ours became a giant in world affairs, a leading light in the struggles of the African people for liberation. For Ghanaians themselves, this was the dawn of a new era of prosperity, freedom and justice. Those dreams of ours for a better life, those hopes spread in our fellow Africans by our independence seem to have evaporated over the years, leaving us a very demoralized and even increasingly dehumanized society. Our desperate straits have forced many of our citizens into seeking their fortune elsewhere in neighboring African countries or even further afield. And this has been in spite of the immense human and other natural resources that this country has been known to have.

Ironically, a regime that claimed the mantle of Nkrumah was the one which cruelly drove the last nails into the coffin of mother Ghana. The celebration that has been insensitively planned by that regime would perhaps have given joy to the few who had been scandalously plundering this nation's resources. But for the ordinary woman, man, child of this country, this could only have been mourning.

The revolution of 31 December 1981 is meant to restore that promise to make good those dreams of independence which lay smouldering in ashes. And it has made it possible to observe this anniversary not in a spirit of empty festivity for the few, but in a spirit of national self-appraisal and stocktaking for the future. Such self-appraisal cannot be simply done over a day to be forgotten after the day is over.

Accordingly, the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] has decided that the whole of the year, commencing from this midnight through the next 6 March, will be observed as the 25th anniversary year -- the year of ensuring the most basic needs through hard work.

We shall set ourselves national targets over this year such as will put us firmly on the road to true national independence. In this anniversay year, the process of national rescue, which we began on 31 December 1981, will be put on a firm and irreversible footing. It is necessary to remember on this occasion the heroes who fell in the 31 December action as well as in the struggle for independence. They have all displayed true love for their fellow men. As independence begins to be truly realized we will honor their memories more and more through solid achievements that will be worth their sacrifice.

Independence was the rejection of the centuries of colonial domination during which our resources were at the mercy of foreign exploiters. Our minerals and other products left our shores to enrich people in other lands. Relatively little material development occurred in our land. Independence meant a rejection of such control, a reassertion of our own capacity to administer the resources of our lands. But the foreign interests had already secured a considerable control of our resources which they would not easily relinquish. If the new leaders seriously sought control, they were bound to meet with resistance from those who had earlier profited from dominating us. It would take a firm and determined leadership to remain committed to national independence.

Instead, however, as became clear, some of our leaders soon found easy opportunities for personal enrichment even as no real change occurred in the living conditions of the vast majority. It was soon evident how our own leaders had only stepped into the shoes of the foreigners. They found it easier to sell their birthrights for a mess of porridge than to lead their people to real independence. Committee of inquiry after committee of inquiry had shown how our leaders in one regime after another had preferred the crumbs that came to them from the tables of the rich rather than to lead us all to harness our riches together.

But though only a few people could in this way achieve their personal comforts at our expense, all of us had also contributed to this extraordinary state of affairs. Corruption has become ranpant from top to bottom. And the more the ordinary also indulged in petty acts of corruption, the more difficult it became to complain about the bigger corruption. The point was reached where we were all reduced to helplessness and even indifference. During the Limann administration, serious allegations of corruption against top functionaries became a matter of idle gossip and party intrigue even in Parliament. Among the big men it was even possible to arrive at settlements, sometimes judicially sanctioned, of these affairs. The wealth of this nation was merely the playground of its leaders. Booty was shared brazenly by people whose responsibility it was to see to the welfare of all the people. Investigations being conducted will reveal at the appropriate time some of the even more sordid crimes committed by the past administrations. The PNDC is determined that these sordid tales should not return and that power should find its rightful place among the people at the grassroots rather than with the few who misuse it for personal gain.

It is not possible to bribe all the people to sell their birthrights. The people's defense committees which were inaugurated are therefore vital organs for defending us from repetition of these past crimes. What I said to my colleagues on the PNDC at the beginning of our service is worth repeating here: Membership of the council is not like the privilege of an heir who has come into some property after someone's death. It rather involves sacrifices. It involves courage. It calls for discipline and revolutionary humility. It means working without looking at the clock, thinking night and day about the poor, the exploited, the ordinary man on whose behalf the council was formed. But the dreams of the future which brought the council into being are only going to be realized through the united efforts of all of us.

We must also know that we cannot lift ourselves from the muddy ground without getting our hands soiled in the mud and that applies to all of us. Our only paddles out of our present storm are our hands and our hands will be needed on deck. No citizens of this country, indeed, no one who enjoys the facilities that are provided through the sweat and toil of our people, is too big to go into the fields to plow them or to go into the cocoa sheds to evacuate cocoa. We have seen the failures of politicians and bureaucrats who take uncheered decisions for the people without participating themselves in the real work that needs to be done. It is gratifying to see that workers in various institutions have begun voluntarily to involve themselves in cocoa evacuation and other agricultural tasks. Some lawyers too, in Takoradi, have, I hear, been getting involved. This new spirit of voluntary work surging through all sections of our society confirms what tremendous potential lies in us.

Best of all, the students of this country who took up our call to leave their studies temporarily and constitute various task forces have given the most decisive and encouraging impetus to the rescue operation.

Every schoolboy knows that cocoa is Ghana's largest foreign exchange earner through which this country has managed to survive over the years. And for years, the cocoa remained unevacuated from the producing areas even as we have urgently needed the foreign exchange to provide the needs of our nation -- food, the drugs, the machinery, spare parts and other material for our development. The students who have come through the country to get this nation's life blood moving have shown in this short spate of time what it is possible to achieve on even the most limited resources and even in the most difficult circumstances. When we called upon them at the beginning of the revolution to undertake this task, there were discouraging noises from some of the very elements whose inefficiency and inaptitude had created the situation that needed to be rectified. Some spoke of the disruption of the students' academic program as if the survival of this country was not a condition for the highest academic achievement of any students and as if we had not all been witnesses to the frustrations of recent graduates of our institutions.

We believe that the students have themselves reached a deep educational experience out of these efforts, that they have learned more about this nation than any textbook could teach them and that they have better understood the problems which their education is meant to solve for this country. No education is worthwhile if it is isolated from the harsh realities of our society. In helping to build pit latrines in areas which need them; in helping to provide sanitation throughout the country; in rehabilitating roads and bridges and in the numerous other tasks they have undertaken, these young men and women -- like the soldiers who made the revolution possible -- are showing that the people of this country are determined that this country will recover its dignity.

Undoubtedly, it is the recovery of our economy that takes first priority in our task. And we have set ourselves, as a first target, the checking of one of the dramatic symptoms of our decline -- the excess liquidity situation. As the value of the cedi has been steeply falling, a natural response was for each individual to use every means -- fair or foul -- to multiply his share in the cedis that continued to be printed at an alarming rate even as we were hearing speeches from experts in government about the need to curb this excess liquidity. The recent statement of the 1981-1982 budget indicates our determination to bring discipline into the financial administration of this country, even if it means sacrifices from all of us. Sacrifices are bearable if they involve everyone. These are no times for idelness, or for anything less than rigorous discipline, because the national coffers are completely empty.

As of January, the Bank of Ghana had outstanding foreign exchange obligations of about $300 million while in our commercial banks, outstanding applications for foreign exchange to pay for goods we are already consuming come to about $214 million. A recent estimated summary of immediate requirements in goods to keep the system going came to $550 million. No Father Christmas exists to make these provisions for us. The solutions lie in us, in our readiness to work and produce at levels that we have not attained before.

In the past, also, there have been plans upon plans drawn up for this country. Now is the time for implementation. Especially in this 25th anniversary year, our principle objective is to ensure that we do not just have idle plans sitting in the files of the civil service. We shall no longer allow the anonymous mystery of the civil service to show inefficiency and unproductivity. The public has a right to know constantly progress that is being made and the vigilance about any plans in the wheel of progress.

We propose a four-pronged attack on the economic situation. These programs should be fully discussed and understood by all people's defense committees. The establishment of discipline in our financial administration will underlie all our other efforts since so many of our problems in the past have stemmed from careless management of what we have. However much we improve our financial administration, we will not be much better off if we do not cut down considerably on imports of food. In a fertile land such as ours, there can be no reason, in fact, no justification for such large food import bills which simply do us no good. Through our individual and collective efforts on the agricultural front, it is expected that by 1983, we would have reduced our food import bills by at least 50 percent.

A further prong in this program is the rehabilitation of our traditional foreign exchange earnings. The evacuation of cocoa is only a first phase in the rehabilitation of the cocoa industry which has been in such decline. Cocoa production in 1980-1981 reached the lowest level since the late 1980's [as heard]. One of the reasons for this decline must be the way in which payments to the farmers have been handled by the produce buying division of the Cocoa Marketing Board. This has often meant that cocoa farmers delivered cocoa only for chits from the buying clerks. With the Limann administration's threefold increase in the price, there would have been even worse delays in payment to the point where the nominal increase in price would become worthless. Government has decided that, pending an investigation into the operations of the produce buying division, all cocoa farmers who have delivered cocoa to the buying clerks but obtained no chits or any promisory paper, should go to the particular produce clerk and collect such a document. This will enable a verification process to be conducted after which payments will be made through banks.

In the meantime, the government has also decided that the exercise of returning deposited 50-cedi notes will start with farmers who deposited between 50 cedis and 500 cedis. We wish to ensure all those who deposited their amounts of 50-cedis in good faith that the Bank of Ghana will soon announce details of a repayment schedule for these deposits.

While the previous government recognized the potential of Ghana's gold and other mineral resources, it seemed to have been more interested in allowing the creation of a monopoly for a foreign company -- Lonhro -- in the exploitation of Ghana's gold. In addition to Lonrho's interest in the Ashanti Goldfield Corporation, a managing director for state gold mining corporation was appointed from Lonrho and recommendation for the outright purchase of Tarkwa goldfield was being considered. While the PNDC welcomes foreign expertise and foreign investment when this is in line with national goals, it cannot accept the creation of the monopoly situation for any foreign investors.

Fourthly, as part of our present phase of stocktaking, it is necessary to plan afresh basic energy needs, especially for our industrial sector. In this connection, it will be necessary for a national energy commission to examine carefully the various energy sources available to us, especially the alternatives to oil which takes up such a substantial part of our revenue at the moment. A lot of patience and thorough work is called for in this national exercise.

Fundamental to our present intentions is the desire to become masters of our own destiny. That is a right which some will want to rob us of for their own destiny. That is a right which some will want to rob us of for their own ends. We will keep our guard, especially against those unpatriotic and selfish persons who have lost their chance to take the people of this country for a ride. We know how they are fighting back and using lies to try and confuse people. We know how imeprialism can try to blackmail us economically, using a whole arsenal of weapons. But we are not deterred!

This struggle, which we anticipate will be long and difficult, can only end in one thing: the defeat of the old and corrupt establishment and the victory of a revolution -- our revolution, Ghana's revolution; a revolution for Africa.

Fellow countrymen, let us spend this evening examining our past performances. There is no doubt that we can do better provided the burden of this country is borne by all of us.

Thank you and good night.

PNDC CHAIRMAN REVIEWS PARADE, SPEAKS 6 MAR

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[Text] A colorful parade was held at the Independence Square in Accra this morning to mark Ghana's 25th anniversary of independence. Contigents of the people's army, navy, air force, border guards, police and prisons service, schoolchildren and members of voluntary organizations took part in the parade. The salute was taken by the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings.

In a speech, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings asked Ghanaians not to betray the 31 December revolution as they did the June 4 one. He declared that there is no barrier to the current revolution. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings said Ghanaians know what is going on in their country and must fight to protect the wealth of the nation. He said the country is for Ghanaians and as there is a lot to be done the people must work hard to make the country great.

Flight Lieutenant Rawlings noted that Ghana is in a difficult situation. This calls for a concerted effort to restore social and economic justice. He remarked that Ghanaians have learned their lesson from the past because while people in other countries have made progress, Ghanaians are still in difficulty. The PNDC chairman wondered why people in position put on weight while there are problems in Ghana.

He was critical of the performance of the mass media in the past and said people did not understand why the past government used state machinery to publicize that democracy was prevailing. He said as a result of the so-called democracy, many people ended up in asylums and other died. He recalled with regret that he himself was used to terrorize the people during the Akyeampong regime.

Flight Lieutenant Rawlings added that one mistake Ghanaians make is the refusal to use their thinking powers and they have been moulded to perceive things from other's angle. All this he said must be changed. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, who interspersed his speech with remarks in Ga and Twi, said he will visit factories, farms and homes to educate the people on the aims of the revolution.

He referred to the country's critics outside. The PNDC chairman asked them to come to Ghana and live with the people to see how they live before criticizing the country. He appealed to farmers, fishermen, soldiers, policemen and workers to work hard so that by the end of the anniversary year the present hungry lean faces of Ghanaians would be looking better and healthier.

The parade was watched by a large number of people including PNDC members, PNDC secretaries, service commanders, members of the diplomatic corps and chiefs. Similar parades were held in the regional capitals.